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HISTORY  
OF THE  
NEW ENGLAND SPIRITUALIST  
CAMPMEETING ASSOCIATION

AT  
LAKE PLEASANT, MASS.

BY  
H. A. BUDINGTON.

91 SHERMAN ST., SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

STAR PUBLISHING COMPANY.

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### Lake Pleasant.

Lake Pleasant is located in the town of Montague, Mass. about seven miles east of Greenfield and nearly ninety three miles west of Boston. It is reached by the Fitchburg division of the Boston & Maine Railroad.



**HISTORY**  
OF THE  
**NEW ENGLAND SPIRITUALISTS' CAMP-  
MEETING ASSOCIATION**  
AT  
**LAKE PLEASANT, MASS.**

In 1870, George W. Potter of Greenfield, Mass., bought a piece of land at Lake Pleasant, a part of which was located where the Old Grove now is. Having cleared a small part of the flat and put in a few benches, he invited some fifty of the old people of Greenfield to make up a pic-nic party for the Lake.

He also invited the editor of the *Franklin County Times* to attend and report the outing in his paper.

Thus was Lake Pleasant opened to the public.

During the next four years, great political and temperance conventions and Fourth of July celebrations were held there. General Butler, Senator Henry Wilson and other eminent men were heard by many thousands of people at Lake Pleasant in those early years.

In 1872 Mr. Potter sold his interest in the land to the Fitchburg Rail Road Company. This Company built the dancing Pavilion, the band stand, the old rostrum; added more benches and placed a number of tables with seats for pic-nic

parties, on the side hill, north of the Auditorium. This Company also built the present depot and two pairs of stairs, one where the present stairs are, and a very wide pair leading up from the rail road track to the Pavilion.

Wells were driven in several parts of the grove, but none proved of special merit except Jacob's Well, so properly named by Lizzie Lincoln. Having so well prepared the grove for a summer resort, the Rail Road Company advertised Lake Pleasant extensively and brought the superb Fitchburg Band with crowds of pleasure seekers to the Lake. For the next two years Lake Pleasant was the center of attraction up and down the Connecticut valley for Sabbath school pic-nics, Masonic and Odd Fellows outings, Grange parties, village street gatherings and the conventions before mentioned.

#### **How the Spiritualist Campmeeting at Lake Pleasant began.**

In June, 1874, on the return of H. A. Budington by train from Orange, as it stopped at Lake Pleasant, J. J. Richardson, the Greenfield caterer, who had an ice cream and refreshment booth at the Lake for pic-nic parties, came aboard the cars. On taking a seat beside Mr. Budington, he began conversation in which he said it would be a good place at Lake Pleasant for a Spiritualist Campmeeting.

They talked the matter over till they reached Greenfield. The next morning Mr. Budington called on Dr. Joseph Beals of Greenfield and related the conversation of the previous evening. Dr. Beals heartily endorsed the project.

The next day Mr. Budington went to Springfield

and informed Harvey Lyman of that city, what had been proposed. (He had been looking for a couple of years for a location in the Connecticut valley for a Spiritualist Campmeeting.) Mr. Lyman advised that the matter should be presented to the Free Religious Society of that city, the following Sunday.

Mr. Budington made a short address, explaining the situation. It was decided to have a basket pic-nic at Lake Pleasant and "spy out the land."

In a few days the pic-nic party, made up of Harvey Lyman and wife, Mrs. F. C. Coburn, Mrs. Morrill, Henry Smith, Mary Dickinson, John H. Smith and wife, all of Springfield, Mr. Barry of North Wilbraham, Mr. Peck of Charlemont, R. H. Minot of Northfield, Dr. Joseph Beals, J. W. Miller, W. C. Bryant and H. A. Budington, visited Lake Pleasant. Sitting in the old Auditorium, where great celebrations had been held, the party met Mr. Comee, as assistant Superintendent of the Fitchburg Rail Road and for three hours or more, talked plans.

Not having time to conclude the conversation, the party adjourned to Mr. Budington's editorial office in Greenfield, where a temporary organization was completed and a vote taken to hold a Campmeeting in August. Dr. Beals was nominated for president and was elected: Harvey Lyman was made treasurer and committee on tents and grounds: Henry Smith, clerk: Dr. Beals, Mrs. Coburn and Mr. Budington, committee on music. Mr. Budington was made the committee on printing and advertising also chairman of committee for speakers.

Mr. Budington wrote the call for the Campmeeting and published it in his *Franklin County Times*; the call and signatures of subscribers filling two columns of the paper. There was a little over a month for preparation.

One hundred tents were hired of Gardner and Richardson of Boston; of which seventy five were used. These tents lined Lyman and Broadway streets, a few being pitched on the Bluff and Montague street. There were no streets so named the first year, but paths were found along the locations of the above named streets. The tents were pitched wherever a place was found between the trees. The pine trees on Lyman street were twelve to fifteen feet high in 1874. Headquarters the first year were in a tall bell tent, located on lot now occupied by the Douglass family.

Mrs. Lizzie Lincoln of Boston was written to, and her energetic action resulted in bringing a large delegation from that city.

The first Campmeeting was a success. All expenses were paid. John Collier, just over from England, made the dedicatory address and pronounced an excellent original poem in honor of the Camp.

The spirit world, a few months before, had suggested that such a project ought to be started in the Connecticut valley, but to J. J. Richardson, now ascended to the higher life, should be given the credit of first proposing that Spiritualists should hold a Campmeeting at Lake Pleasant.

At the first Campmeeting, and for several years following, the Fitchburg Railroad Company paid



one half of the wages of the Fitchburg Band, consisting of twenty four accomplished musicians, led by that master artist, Mr. Russell of Fitchburg. The Campmeeting paid the other half ( the wages were three dollars a day) and boarded and lodged the Band.

The dining rooms were two large tents, run by Mr. Duncklee of New Hampshire. The tents stood where the Hotel office and the Annex are now, extending from Broadway to Montague street.

Campers cooked under the pine trees, several families in some instances using one cook stove.

The trees were ornamented with dippers, kettles teapots, towels and dish cloths. The bedticks were filled with straw, some placing them on the ground, others upon rude bedsteads made of pine boards.

The novelty was so great that hundreds of people from the surrounding towns came to see "those queer people;" often opening the tent flaps and peering in without invitation.

Street speaking was frequent; many of the speakers and mediums holding forth in front of their tents to a gaping and astonished crowd. The enthusiasm was catching and the grove resounded with harangues. Twice a day the Fitchburg Band gave open air concerts. Dances, were enjoyed each week afternoon and evening by both young and old people. (No dancing has ever been permitted on Sundays, notwithstanding statements to the contrary have been made by prejudiced people.)

One orthodox woman in Montague was greatly shocked when she heard there was to be a Spiritual-

ist Campmeeting at Lake Pleasant! She said, "It is perfectly dreadful—them wicked Spiritoolists are comin to Lake Pleasant! They will fiddle and dance and the Devil will chuckle! What will become of our young women? They will all be led away from our church and lose their souls!"

Before the meeting was over, that same orthodox woman was seen, in the evening, peeking through the lattice work of the dancing Pavilion, and evidently enjoying the dance.

Charley Sullivan, the actor, made "kitchen square" on the Bluff a center of attraction to all the house keeping women, when he donned Irish feminine garb and idiom, and transformed himself into an Irish washerwoman so completely that even Lizzie Lincoln did not know him as he scrubbed at the wash-tub.

Among the speakers at the first Campmeeting were Sarah Byrnes and Dr. Storer.

The credit of having the most handsomely furnished tent belonged to J. Frank Baxter, who for several years made his tent into a beautiful drawing room, with flowers, flags and drapery.

Fortunately no rain fell during the first Campmeeting, so living in the woods was a charming experience.

From the *Gazette and Courier*, Greenfield, Mass, June 10, 1874. "The Spiritualists have arranged for a two weeks' Campmeeting at Lake Pleasant, commencing August 13." From the same paper Aug 10. "This week, Thursday begins the Spiritualist Campmeeting at Lake Pleasant. The managers have secured a number of speakers who will give lectures



in the forenoons of each week day and on Sundays in the forenoon and afternoon.

The lectures will begin at 10.30 A. M and 2.30 P. M. on the two Sundays, A grocery and provision store will be opened on the grounds, where those who want to board themselves can procure all kinds of fruits, vegetables, dried and canned meats, white and brown bread and all kinds of groceries needed for housekeeping. A butcher has been engaged to furnish fresh and salted meats, poultry &c. all that will be needed.

There will also be two large boarding tents of sufficient capacity to accommodate all. The price of board will be one dollar a day or six dollars a week. Private tents will be erected and rented from four to seven dollars for two weeks.

The grounds will be dedicated on Friday, August 14, by an address by John Collier of England.

The Fitchburg band will be present at the dedicatory exercises and remain on the grounds for ten days. A choir of singers will also be organized and furnish vocal music.

There will be two addresses on the Sunday of August 16. Mrs. Nellie J. Temple Brigham of Elm Grove will speak Sunday morning the 16th and Dr. H. P. Fairfield in the afternoon. Maud E. Lord of Boston will be present several days and give public seances for physical manifestations.

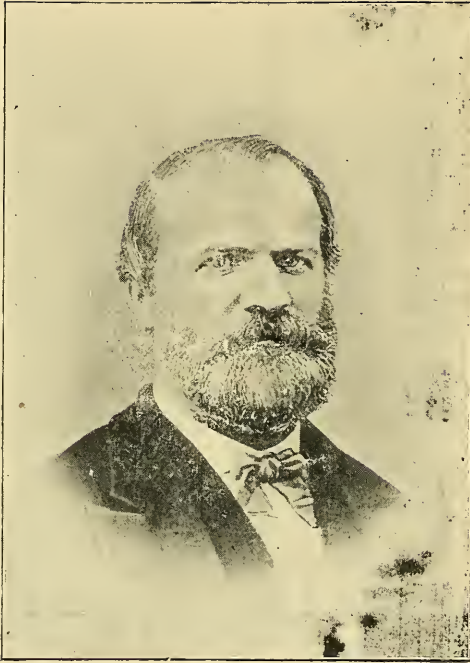
During the week days there will be opportunities for dancing in the afternoon and evening.

Excursions can be taken to Mount Tobey, which is but five miles distant; and under the improvemenis

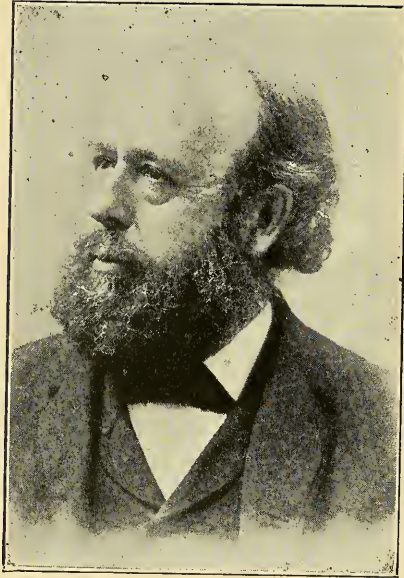
of Rector L. Goss, has become a charming spot, easy of access. A force of state police will be on the ground, but it is hoped little will be required of them. All the rail roads will carry passengers at half fare, and will transport the baggage and furniture of the campers, free.

Parties calling for Campmeeting tickets for Lake Pleasant will receive a return ticket. The Springfield, Athol and North Eastern Rail Road will reduce fares one half. There will be three extra trains to Campground from Athol and way stations during the second week, the time for which will be given in rail road posters. Extra Sunday trains will run from Springfield, Hoosac Tunnel, Brattleboro and Fitchburg. Lake Pleasant grove is dry and healthy and free from malaria."

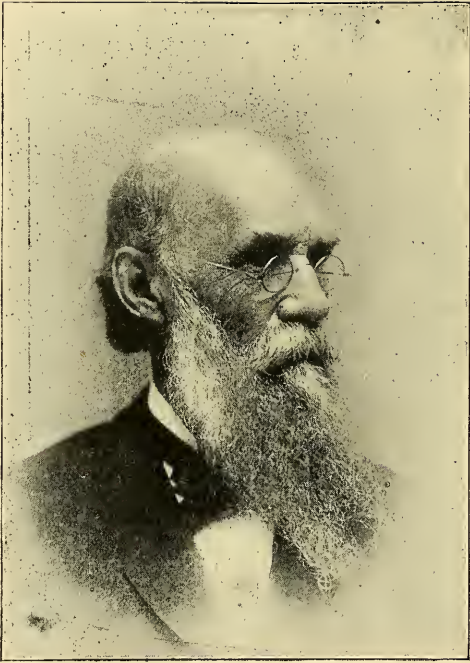
From same paper August 31, 1874—"The Spiritualist Campmeeting at Lake Pleasant broke up Thursday; though many of the tents were struck the day before. Before the close, the Assembly organized itself into the SPIRITUALIST AND LIBERALIST CAMPMEETING ASSOCIATION OF MASSACHUSETTS; with these officers: President, Joseph Beals; Vice Presidents, E. W. Dickinson of Springfield; H. S. Williams of Boston; Dr. Brigham of Fitchburg; Mr. Hapgood of Lowell, W. W. Carrier of Haverhill; Corresponding Secretary, Henry Smith of Springfield; Recording Secretary, Oliver Proctor of Townsend; Treasurer, Harvey Lyman of Springfield. Executive Committee, George Hosmer of Boston, H. A. Budington and Mrs. E. P. Morrill of Springfield, W. A. Gilmore of Chicopee.



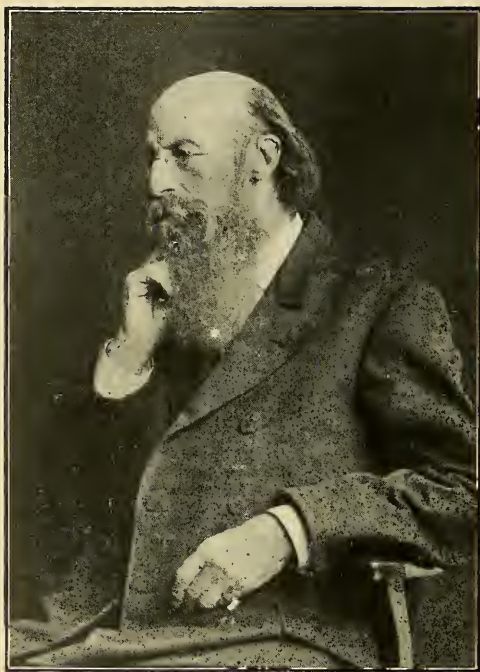
J. E. RICHARDSON.



HENRY A. BUDINGTON.



JOSEPH BEALS.



ABRAM L. DAILEY.







R. F. CHURCHILL.

The following report of an address by Rev. B. F. Underwood of Chicopee, reported by one of the officers of the Association, will give our readers an idea of the views and spirit that prevailed at that gathering. The reporter said it was cheered by the audience!

Rev. B. F. Underwood gave an exceedingly plain and well-arranged address, treating the subject of religious belief as a matter to be subjected to the human reason. Among the points made were the following—there is no personal God—that every one makes his own God—that an honest God is the noblest work of man—every attribute of God is but the reflection of our own minds—that God is merely the name for the unknown and unknowable.

It is that power which

Warms in the sun; refreshes in the breeze,

Glows in the stars and blossoms in the trees.

He said the world was never made of nothing—matter never had a beginning and will never have an end—that there was no necessity for creation for everything exists by its own inherent force and attributes—that there is nothing in the universe but material substances. If there is a spirit, it is also matter—nature's laws are inexorable—there is no personal intervention to suspend the laws of nature and there never was.

The lightning of the supposed God strikes the church and its members as readily as the sinner.

He said the idea was absurd, to make a solid firmament on the second day and light the first day, when the sun and moon were not made until the fourth day; and to have trees and plants growing

before there was a sun to shine on them and make them grow.

Every school boy knows there was no such firmament as was described in the Bible, and hence God must have wasted the second day. The world was never created, but was evolved out of a nebulous mass. Man was originally a savage, and lived in caves; he had improved himself and fallen up instead of down.

The marriage relation was never instituted by God, but was the outgrowth of man's civilization. All barbarous nations capture their wives from foreign tribes. Cultured man had instituted the rite of marriage with its beautiful homes: Government comes also by man's progress—there was no salvation by the sufferings of the good man, Jesus, but by each man's own acts.

The orthodox scheme of salvation by atonement, was a bankrupt scheme—Jesus Christ was no more a saviour of man than was Thomas Paine or Voltaire or any other man who has tried to benefit mankind: no man should be condemned for his opinions—honest error does not imply moral criminality—the false statement that he that believeth not shall be damned, has lighted the fires of Smithfield, has shed the blood of St. Bartholomew's day, has massacred thousands in India, has driven the Puritans to America, hung Quakers and banished Baptists.

He would substitute for orthodox churches and their hollow worship, intellectual culture—build schools and temples of learning—exalt and glorify man instead of praising God—he used the Bible as he did other books and criticised it freely—he did

not believe the whole story nor that of Lot's wife, nor that the serpent cheated Eve, nor that the sun stood still by the command of God, that one barbarous nation might cut the throats of another.

The Bible did not give woman her true place—it made her a satellite to man while she should be his equal—the Bible could not be from God, for if it was, it would be in such plain language that all would understand and there would not be three hundred sects of Christians, all jealous of each other—he did not know if there be another life, but if there was, the best way to prepare for it was to do good and live uprightly in this life—man did not sin through Adam, but by himself—he thought works were better than prayer and good deeds should take the place of addresses to a supposed Deity—he would substitute modern science for Bible fables.' ”

#### THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

Harvey Lyman was made chairman of committee on laying out the grounds the second year. He plotted for tents only. Hence when people began to build cottages, the lots proved to be too small, and the crowded condition of the original grove is the result of the mistake he made.

All the land between Lyman street and Broadway and the old Auditorium was originally laid out for a park. There were to be no houses or tents on the east side of these streets; but Mr. Lyman yielded to the pleas of some campers to put tents temporarily on the east side, and once on the park they remained and the park was lost.

For a few years the Campmeeting was not legally incorporated, and the informal officers obtained

yearly permission of the Fitchburg Rail Road Company, which held a lease from the Vermont and Massachusetts Rail Road Company, to hold meetings in August.

In 1879 the campers at Lake Pleasant formed an organization and became incorporated under the name of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association; as follows;—

#### ORIGINAL AGREEMENT.

“We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do by this agreement associate ourselves with the intention to constitute a corporation according to the provisions of the three hundred and seventy fifth chapter of the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, passed in the year 1874, approved June 27th in said year, and the acts in amendment thereof and in addition thereto.

The name by which the Corporation shall be known, shall be the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association.

The purpose for which the Corporation is constituted, is to provide and maintain a place or places for holding camp, grove and other meetings of a social, educational and religious character; to receive money, lands and property of any description to be used for purchasing and maintaining grounds, buildings or any other property that may be needed for the use of the Association.

The place within which the Corporation is established or located is in the town of Montague, within said Commonwealth.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands



this ninth day of January in the year 1879.

Joseph Beals, Greenfield, Massachusetts.

W. C. Bryant, " "

C. L. Butler, " "

Sumner Chapman, " "

L. H. Stone, " "

L. W. Rice, " "

J. A. Dakin, " "

H. H. Park, " "

BY LAWS ADOPTED JANUARY 6, 1879.

All persons in sympathy with this Association and desiring to promote its objects, may become members by signing or authorizing their names signed to the By Laws, and paying one dollar annually, previous to or at the opening of the annual meeting of the Association.

Art. 2 The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, three Vice Presidents, a Clerk, a Treasurer and eight Directors; said officers shall be chosen at the annual meeting of the Association, by ballot, to serve one year from the first day of January next following said meeting, and a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for a choice.

The President shall be chosen by the Directors, from their board.

Art. 3—The annual business meeting of the Association shall be held on the third Monday of August, at the time and place of holding the usual Campmeeting. Special meetings may be called at any time by the Directors, and shall be called whenever requested in writing by ten members of the Association.

Art. 4.—All meetings shall be called by the Clerk upon the written warrant of the Directors, and notice of time, place and purpose of each meeting shall be given in such manner as the Directors shall prescribe in their warrant for such meeting.

Art. 5—These By-Laws may be altered or amended only at annual meetings of the Association, provided that the amendment be submitted in writing and two thirds of the members present are in favor of the same.

Under these By-Laws, the following Directors and officers were then elected.

Directors, Joseph Beals, W. C. Bryant, C. L. Butler, Sumner Chapman, L. H. Stone, J. A. Dakin, H. H. Park, L. W. Rice, all of Greenfield, Mass.

Vice Presidents, M. V. Lincoln, E. W. Dickinson, Mrs. Harvey Lyman: Treasurer, W. C. Bryant: Clerk, L. W. Rice.

In conformity with the statutes of Massachusetts, the foregoing members completed the organization and received a charter from the Governor of Massachusetts, signed by Henry B. Pierce, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

#### LIST OF MEMBERS.

Joseph Beals;	Greenfield	Mass.
Joseph H. Beals	"	"
William C. Bryant	"	"
Joseph W. Miller	"	"
Sumner Chapman	"	"
L. H. Stone	"	"
L. D. Graves	"	"
John C. Thompson	"	"

A. Bullens	Chicopee	"
Mrs. A. Bullens	"	"
W. H. Gilmore	"	"
Mrs. W. H. Gilmore	"	"
Mrs. M. E. White	"	"
Mrs. C. A. Bullens	"	"
John S. Hart	Springfield,	"
Mrs. John S. Hart	"	"
Moses W. Lyman	"	"
T. W. Coburn	"	"
Mrs. F. A. Cook	"	"
Mrs. A. H. Coburn	"	"
S. S. Leonard	"	"
Henry A. Budington	"	"
George Lyman	"	"
John W. Lyman	"	"
F. C. Coburn	"	"
Mrs. L. P. M. Smith	"	"
Mrs. Jennie Warner	"	"
Sophia S. Billings	"	"
Mrs. H. M. Packard	"	"
E. M. Lyman	"	"
Frank H. Warner	"	"
B. M. Budington	"	"
Dr. W. A. Towne	"	"
John H. Smith	"	"
Mrs. E. P. Morrill		
E. W. Dickinson		
M. H. Fletcher	Westford,	"
David B. Gerry	Stoneham	"
W. F. D. Perkins	Boston,	"
Jeuny Rhind	"	"
Moses Hunt	"	"
Mary D. Stearns	"	"

Mrs. Geo. W. Barnes	"	"
Mrs. M. F. Starbird	"	"
Mary A. Lincoln	"	"
M. V. Lincoln	"	"
Mrs. M. V. Lincoln	"	"
Mrs. Nellie Nelson	"	"
Mrs. E. L. Sanford	"	"
Mrs. A. M. Goodwin	"	"
Mrs. G. F. Fairbanks	"	"
Mrs. E. G. Severance	"	"
Mrs. A. E. Fletcher	"	"
Mrs. Sarah Stone	"	"
Mrs. A. A. Jackson	"	"
Dr. C. C. York	"	"
C. G. Bird	"	"
Mrs. C. G. Bird	"	"
J. J. Gurney	"	"
Mrs. Frank Pathlin	"	"
George James	"	"
Mrs. M. A. Charter	"	"
Edward E. Conant	"	"
Thomas A. Gardner	"	"
E. P. Hood	New	"
H. G. Hawkins	Walpole,	N. H.
Mrs. L. F. Chickering	"	"
Wales B. Eddy	Amherst,	Mass.
Henry B. Allen	"	"
Sardis Chapman	Southampton,	"
W. D. Prouty	Worcester,	"
H. A. Abbott	"	"
John A. Lowe	"	"
George H. Wooster	"	"
P. H. Babbitt	Barre,	"

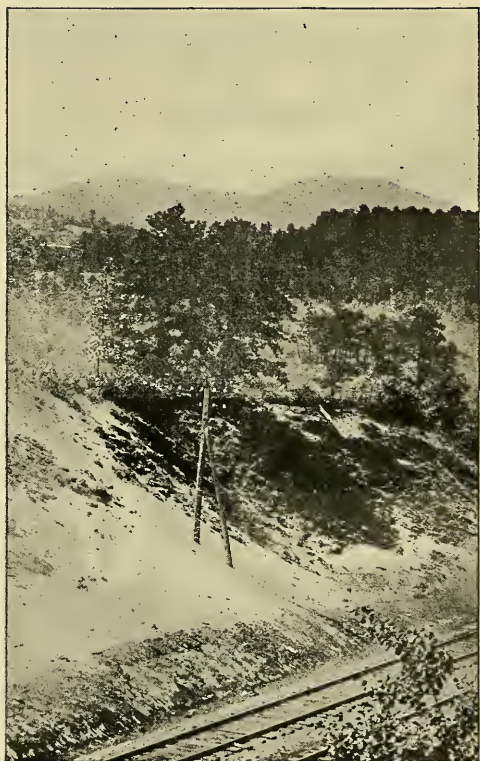


SOME OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE SPIRITUALIST CAMP AT LAKE PLEASANT.











O. W. Grout	Whately	"
Sumner Smith	"	"
Dr. W. F. Whitman	Athol	"
John Woodis	"	"
Dr. B. D. Deak	"	"
George W Woodard	"	"
A. G. Stratton	"	"
J. W. Perry	"	"
S. Carter	Baldwinsville,	"
John Patterson	"	"
R. H. Minot	Northfield	"
Abijah Fales	East Templeton,	"
T. T. Greenwood	"	"
N. H. Searles	"	"
F. L. Sargent	"	"
Mrs. D. C. Wood	Northboro,	"
L. Stevens	Orange,	"
D. L. Felton	"	"
D. Edward Putnam	"	"
George F. Bacon	"	"
Mrs. W. B. Austin	"	"
David Mayo	North Orange,	"
Dr. H. H. Brigham	Fitchburg,	"
Dr. S. C. Brigham	"	"
Dr. B. Williams	"	"
S. P. Burt	Westfield,	"
Dr. C. I. Weston	"	"
F. F. Stedman	Montague	"
Isaac Chenery	"	"
N. S. Henry	"	"
H. M. Henry	"	"
Harvey Lyman	"	"
Mrs. Mary A. Lyman	"	"

F. B. Willams	"	"
Warren Hunter	"	"
Mrs. S. H. Amsden	Millers Falls	"
A. W. Caswell	Gardner,	"
T. S. Sherwin	North Adams,	"
L. Sheldon	"	"
William Hodgkins	"	"
Charles Brigham	Clinton,	"
S. F. Dudley	Shutesbury,	"
Sarah E. Stone,	Everett,	"
Sidney Howe	Marlboro,	"
Mary B. Hawks	Turners Falls	"
H. N. Smith	Lake Pleasant,	"
George W. Fowler	Lynn,	"
Mrs. George W. Fowler	"	"
George Dillingham	"	"
Hiram Holmes	Cheshire,	"
H. C. Haskell	Deerfield.	"
M. E. Aspinwall	South Hadley	"
D. W. Fairchild	Sunderland,	"
L. B. Cobb	Cummington	"
L. P. Brogin	Hinsdale,	"
E. J. Rounsville	Charlestown	"
John B. Farnsworth	Leominster,	"
Henry Barber	Warwick	"
Nathanel Holmes	Riverside	"
A. F. Felton	North Leverett	"
A. T. Pierce,	Providence, R. I.	I
Mrs. S. F. Pierce	"	" I
E. W. Clark	Nashua, New Hampshire.	
Mrs. J. Cook	Concord,	"
P. P. Starkey	Ashuelot,	"
Mrs. B. Brackett	Colebrook,	"

Justice Fisher	West Peterboro	“
W. B. Lard	Utica,	New York.
David Jones	“	“
Mrs. H. N. Reed	New York,	New York.
Henry J. Newton	“	“
Dr. A. B. Smith	Brooklyn	“
Mrs. C. Smith	“	“
Mrs. J. W. Stansbury	“	“
Dr. J. W. Stansbury	“	“
W. H. Rynus	“	“
Charles J. Warren	“	“
S. B. Nichols	“	“
Fred Haslam	“	“
C. F. Taylor	Scroon Lake	“
Mrs. M. A. Adams	Brattleboro,	Vermont.
T. T. Stearns	“	“
Frank Reed	“	“
L. Putnam	“	“
Frank Crosier	Reedsboro,	“
Jos. Bullock	“	“
Dr. E. A. Smith	Brandon,	“
J. M. Weeks	Rutland,	“
Moses Goodwin	Glover,	“
Mrs. C. Fowler	Putnam,	Connecticut.
Mrs. S. W. Kingsley	“	“
Edward Lewin	“	“
W. H. Letters	“	“
Mrs. E. R. Davis	“	“
E. B. Parsons	West Winsted,	“
Mrs. S. W. Lincoln	Hartford,	“
George Pasco	“	“
Mrs. L. L. Pasco	“	“
Mrs. A. E. Reed	“	“

Mrs. W. H. Dabin	"	"
Mrs W. A Prior	"	"
George W. Burnham	Willimantic	"
M. W. Comstock	Niantic,	Conn.
James Wilson	Bridgeport,	"
Charles Belnap	"	"
George Burlingame	Somersville,	"
Dr. A. D. Ross	Troy,	New York.
N. Reynolds	"	"
Lewis Ranson	"	"
E. F. Rogers	"	"
Charles Kelsie	"	"
Dr. Ira Davenport	Buffalo	"
E B Fisk	Albany	"
Hattie C. Allen	Auburn	"
E E Wilson	Lombard	Illinois.
S E Dwight	Stafford	"
J, H Lord	"	"
E D Sisson	"	"
Miss L E Johnson		
George Burt		
Mrs. W D Putney		
Mrs. Sitz Barney Sales		
Mrs. Carson.		

THE FIRST ANNUAL MEETING UNDER THE NEW charter of 1879 was held at Lake Pleasant, August, 18, 1880. The members elected John H. Smith of Springfield, clerk; W C Bryant of Greenfield, Treasurer; Directors, Joseph Beals; Harvey Lyman; M H Fletcher; John Hart; D B Gerry; A Bullens; W H Gilmore; W F D Perkins. Vice Presidents M V Lincoln; Dr. H H Brigham; Mrs. M A Lyman.



## HOTEL.

In 1879—80 the dining privilege on the hill was awarded to H. L. Barnard of Greenfield, under the following conditions. Barnard to occupy a part of the lower floor of the present dining hall; (now called Association Hall,) to build an addition 50x60; two stories high with steep roof for attic chambers.

The Association is to furnish \$1250 and Barnard \$1250; and if said building costs Barnard more than about \$2500, whatever more it does cost, shall be the property of the Association without pay: and if at the end of the year the Association does not want Barnard longer, or Barnard does not want the privilege longer, the Association shall have the use of Barnard's half of the building, by paying six per cent on \$1250 during the time that Barnard does not occupy it. Barnard is to furnish this building at his own expense, and if Barnard leaves it under conditions as recorded above, the Association to take the furnishings at an apprizal of a committee of three, chosen in the usual manner; said Barnard to pay \$100 in advance for the privilege of catering during the next season's camping.

Voted that a building committee of three be appointed by the chair to draw up writings for building the Hotel and consult with Mr. Barnard in its construction. M. H. Fletcher moved that the committee consist of President Beals, Treasurer Bryant and N. S. Henry; which motion prevailed.

The Fitchburg Band of twenty pieces was engaged.

## COMPLETION OF THE HOTEL IN 1880.

Mr. Barnard made the Hotel three stories high, and the Directors sanctioned his action by a vote and appropriated \$500 more to meet extra expense; also \$150 extra to help pay for putting on piazza and cupola. The old Association Hall was moved to its present site for \$40.50 and \$100 more to place it in position, putting in underpinning and fixing stairs to same.

## LEASE FROM THE FITCHBURG RAIL ROAD.

In 1880 it was voted to accept and join in the indenture or a lease by and between the Fitchburg Rail Road and this Association, whereby upon the terms and conditions therein set forth, said company lease to this Association a lot of land in Montague, Mass., the same being a part of the premises known as the Lake Pleasant Pic Nic grounds—said lot being bounded southwesterly by Lyman street and northwesterly by Montague street and southeasterly by Broadway, measuring one hundred and seventy five feet on said Broadway and Montague streets, and to release as therein provided, the premises thereby demised from the operation of the agreement made by and between said Association and said Company, dated May 29, 1878—also to borrow five hundred dollars from said Company and to give a promisory note of the Association therefor, payable to said Company on order in nine years from date of said loan, with interest at the rate of five per cent per annum; and as security therefor, to mortgage to said Fitchburg Rail Road Company the new Hotel building upon the premises devised by said lease; and President Beals of the Association is

hereby authorized to execute and deliver in the name and in behalf of the Association, the said note and any and all other papers and instruments, necessary or proper for the purpose aforesaid.

#### NEW BY-LAWS. GROSS RECEIPTS.

In 1880 a new set of By-Laws was adopted.

The gross receipts for 1876 were \$2049.96: for the year 1877 they were \$2119.48: for the year 1878 they were \$2591.45: for the year 1879 they were \$3343.58; for the year 1880 they were \$5018.83.

#### THE DANCING PRIVILEGE.

In 1881, 1882 and 1883 John H. Smith paid for the dancing privilege, each year \$750; making a total of \$2250.

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#### METHODISTS TRIED TO REDEEM LAKE PLEASANT.

About the third year of the Spiritualist Camp-meeting, the Methodists held a Campmeeting, immediately following that of the Spiritualists, and continuing for one week. Many of the mediums remained and reaped quite a harvest from the patronage of the Methodists, chiefly from the women.

So great was this patronage that the ministers concluded that it was more dangerous than safe to prolong the meeting, and at the close of the week they abandoned the attempt to redeem Lake Pleasant. They concluded that Satan had such a strong hold that God even with the help of the Methodists, could not stem the tide of heretical thought which was engulfing this unholy place!

**Lake Pleasant as seen by the Springfield  
Republican in 1880.**

With the opening of the new Hotel at Lake Pleasant, Thursday, this delightful and rapidly growing popular summer resort is again brought to the public attention. The rapidity with which it has grown into public favor is remarkable. Three years ago the most sanguine admirers of this "nest of beauty" hardly dared dream of such a change; but the change from the once quiet nook, disturbed but now and then by parties of distant villagers, to the now bustling village, full of animation from June to October, is undoubtedly permanent. In the place of the ordinary tent to be taken up and moved at a moment's notice, neat and substantial cottages are built, the old time cow-paths through the woods have given place to regular streets, running in every direction.

The grove proper is shaded by small white and yellow pines, with a few chestnuts and poplars, and comprises some 50 acres. This is now all occupied.

The Fitchburg Rail Road Company has cleared and opened, beyond the ravine, a lovely bit of woods bordering on the lake, covering 50 acres or more, and a dozen houses are to go up there this season. They are more generous with the land here, allowing a 50 feet square site for a building lot, while on the old ground very little land is given more than the cottage or tent actually covers.

There are now more than 90 cosy cottages upon the grounds, and others are springing up on every corner. One peculiar and pleasant feature about the location is the fact, the mosquito's sharp proboscis

is rarely felt. Another noticeable fact is that the soil is of such an absorbing nature that, no matter how drenching a shower may pour down, in an hour after the rain, one may walk around with slippers on and not get his feet wet.

While all the advantages of unmolested nature are retained, the conveniences of city life are visible on every hand. The post and telegraph offices are handy, stores with everything needed for the inner and outer man are within reach, bathing houses line the banks of the lake, the daily papers are promptly on hand, and during the campmeeting season, a paper is published on the ground: the slick barber, the glib news boy, the noisy boot black, itinerant peddler, the dignified police—all and more are within its borders as reminders of “home, sweet home.” The Spiritualist Association presents an almost endless variety of attractions. One of the greatest is the engagement each year of the Fitchburg military band of 24 pieces, who gives two concerts daily and three on Sunday.

This, the opening week at the Spiritualists’ encampment, in point of campers, visitors and general interest, has been unprecedented. The managers, speakers, mediums and purveyors are all in a very hopeful condition, and freely assert that another week will prove this to be “the greatest campmeeting of Spiritualists ever held in the world.” From every direction on heavily loaded trains may daily be seen scores of the faithful on their annual pilgrimage to this Mecca of the Spiritual gospel.

The growth of this summer resort is marvellous! There are now 175 tents set up, with a prospect of

50 more before the season closes, and the appearance of permanency is given in the erection of very neat cottages from year to year.

Previous to the organization of this Association six years ago, there was not a building on the grounds, while to-day there are 125 modern structures, including handsome cottage homes, eight large restaurants, dining and refreshment rooms, and a large hotel. The latter, built at cost of \$10,000 has already proved a success: 250 guests are registered, every room being occupied, and two carloads of bedsteads and bedding arrived to-day to be set up in the attic and halls.

The arrivals of the week have been large, and the lake is now a village of some 2,000 people. Hundreds daily visit the place out of curiosity, to "see what kind of folks these Spiritualists are," while a larger class still, go to enjoy the scenery of this lovely lake and its surroundings. Both parties return to their homes well pleased. I know whereof I affirm when I say that at no campmeeting in all New England is there less drunkenness or other disorder than here. The crowd is promiscuous, but it is well behaved outwardly. No building on the premises is of less use than the lockup. There is less rowdyism than prevailed about the Methodist tented field at Northampton, or that of the Adventists of your own Liberty street hill. As an excursionists' paradise, the spot more than holds its own.

#### FOOT BRIDGE OVER THE RAIL ROAD.

The people from Connecticut and along the line of the New London and Northern Rail Road, after a few years, came in such numbers, the Rail Road



Company erected a shed station some half mile south east of the Camp; built stairs on which to ascend to the plain and also a foot bridge over the Fitchburg Rail Road, opposite the dancing Pavilion. This bridge was taken down in 1904, the station shed having been burned several years before.

#### EXPENSES OF BAND AND VOCAL MUSIC IN 1881.

The Association paid in 1881, \$1385 and also boarded the Band. The Association paid \$175 for vocal music that year.

#### CLERK'S SALARY.

In 1881 the clerk's salary was \$100.

#### SKATING RINK.

About 1884 H. L. Barnard built a large rink for roller skating on the south bluff opposite the head of Lyman street. The sport became so popular the first season that the patronage of the dancing Pavilion was seriously reduced. Seeing the danger threatening her devotees, the Goddess, Terpsichore inspired one of her most ardent adherents to apply a lighted match to the rink and in smoke and flame the burnt offering went up while Satyrs sang and danced.

#### THE ROBERTS' SCRIMMAGE.

In 1882 Jonathan Roberts of Philadelphia, editor and publisher of a Spiritualist paper, called *Mind and Matter*, came to Lake Pleasant; and by his indiscreet zeal and intense antagonism to Colonel John C. Bundy, editor and publisher of the *Religio Philosophical Journal* of Chicago, caused much friction in the Camp. He was led by his fractious temper, to insult President Beals and other members of the Association so that the following resolution was passed by the Directors.

“Whereas one Jonathan M. Roberts, the editor and publisher of a newspaper, called *Mind and Matter*, and published in Philadelphia, has during the past few days, while upon the grounds of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association, grossly insulted the President of the Association by shaking his fist in his face, and the use of improper language and in another case, insulted Judge Patton of Pennsylvania, by loud and obscene language, too vile for record or publication, and in still another instance, attacking the editor of the *Religio Philosophical Journal*, and in a public place, using obscene and profane language; such as ‘You G——d d——d son of a b——h: You G——d d——d villain: d——d liar’ and only ceasing when the police had hands on him: and all these outrages having been committed upon the open streets of the Camp and in the hearing of numerous ladies and gentlemen; thus not only bringing disgrace upon the cause of Spiritualism, but violating the rules of decent society, and endangering the good name of the Association:—

Therefore it is hereby resolved that we instruct the police to arrest said Roberts promptly, upon repetition of any such offense against any person, and expel him from the grounds of the Association.

Resolved that we exceedingly regret the necessity which compels us to take this step, and in order that it may be generally known that no such conduct will be tolerated upon the grounds of this Association, we hereby request that the proceedings of this meeting be published in the columns of the several papers of the county, and of the *Lake Pleasant*

*Siftings*, and in all other papers having an interest in promoting the welfare of society and the peace and good order of Campmeetings in general; and that a copy be furnished Judge Patton and Colonel Bundy. ”

The publication of this action of the board of Directors intensely angered Mr. Roberts. In spite of the earnest request of the friends of Mr. Roberts not to bring suit against these officers for slander, he persisted in bringing suit against the members as individuals, not as officers. The case was tried at Greenfield and Roberts was defeated.

Some members of the Association held the opinion that the *individuals sued* should pay the cost of the defense, but the Association by a vote of 323 to 50 decided to assume the debt.

#### BAND STAND ON LYMAN STREET.

This band stand was built in 1885 by H. L. Barnard.

#### MEMORIAL TO M. V. LINCOLN.

The following resolution of respect to M. V. Lincoln was passed by the Association in 1885.

Whereas Mr. M. V. Lincoln, a member of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association, also a Director and Treasurer, has given for years to this Association much of his time and talents, and has rendered to this Association pecuniary aid and assistance when the same has been needed; and

Whereas at the present election of officers of said Association, others have been elected to fill the place of said Lincoln, after the expiration of his present term of office:

Therefore it is hereby declared and resolved as the sense of this Association, that it is due to the said Lincoln and his many friends, that this Association place upon its records the expression of its sincere and heartfelt thanks to the said M. V. Lincoln for his long and faithful service rendered to it, both as an officer and a member:

Resolved that it is the sense of this Association that in dispensing with his services as an officer, we do so with extreme regret and are actuated by a sense of duty to him as well as to the Association, and that his rapidly failing health and an appreciation of his efforts to do for others more than his circumstances will warrant, have impelled us to do for him what he is unwilling to do for himself; excuse him from a responsibility and care it would be inhuman to impose upon him.

Resolved that a copy of these resolutions be duly engrossed and presented to the said M. V. Lincoln and that we invoke the blessing of God and the angel world upon him and his family.

#### MEMORIAL TO W. H. Gilmore IN 1885.

Whereas, through the interposition of those causes which in the natural course of events, removes all men from the mortal to the immortal life, our beloved brother and colaborer, W. H. Gilmore, one of the Directors of this Association, has passed on to reap the golden harvest which his many good deeds of his well-spent life have entitled him to receive:

Therefore, resolved that we, the Directors of this Association, while rejoicing in his gain and happiness, nevertheless hereby record our sorrow and regret that we have lost the services and companionship of

one whose courage and devotion to virtue and truth made him so useful to this Association.

Resolved that we tender to his family our sympathy in the hour of their affliction and we direct that these resolutions be entered upon the records of this Association, and that an engrossed copy of the same be presented to his widow.

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**Formation of the Lake Pleasant Association  
in 1886.**

(THE SYNDICATE.)

Commonwealth of Massachusetts: Town of Montague: County of Franklin.

Know all men by these presents—that we, the several persons whose names are subscribed hereunto enter into the following compact and agreement to and with each other and bind ourselves, our heirs executors, administrators and assigns, to the faithful keeping of the terms, covenants and agreements thereof.

First.—As an incorporated body, we shall be known and designated as the Lake Pleasant Association.

Second.—The object and purpose of our Association is to purchase the lands, or so much thereof as the present owners will sell, which the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association, now holds for their Campmeeting; the price not to exceed \$15,000 for so much as lies westerly of the Fitchburg Rail Road, the said Rail Road reserving sufficient land for station purposes and additional rights or reservations which do not materially detract from the value of the land to be purchased,

which may be made, shall not impair the binding obligations of this compact.

To survey and lay the same out into lots, streets, squares and plazas, beautify and improve the grounds, sell and lease lots, rights and privileges of land, lake or water, subject to such restrictions as the Association may impose.

Third.—Twentyfive per cent of the net revenue derived from such sales or rentals shall be paid to the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association for the improvement of its grounds, payment of its debts and its general campmeeting purposes, under the supervision of the said Trustees.

Fourth.—The remaining proceeds of sales, after the deduction of the legitimate expenses attending the various transactions incident to these objects so fast as the same shall be received, except as this Association may by a majority vote, otherwise determine, shall be divided among and paid over pro-rata among the subscribers hereunto, or to their legal representatives, according to the number of certificates or shares held by each, and such certificates shall be numbered, and each certificate shall show or state on its face how many shares are represented by it and the serial number or numbers of said shares.

Each certificate shall be signed by the President and Secretary of the said Lake Pleasant Association, and such payments shall be semi-annual.

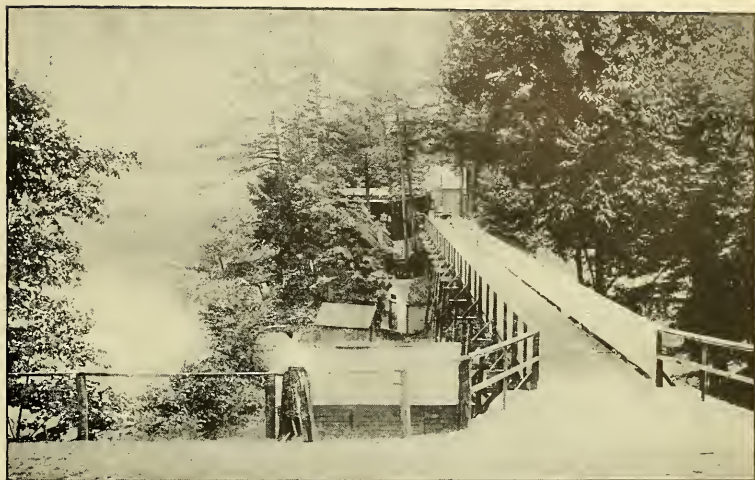
Fifth.—This Association may devote to the use of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association, such portion or portions of the said lands, when so purchased, and proceeds of sales or rents,







LAKE PLEASANT HOTEL







LOVERS' LANE

to improving the grounds purchased, as the members of this Association by a two thirds vote of those attending or legally representing shall designate.

Sixth.—In the purchase of said lands, the title shall be taken by and in the names of the following persons as trustees, for the more convenient and safe transaction of the business and operations contemplated by this compact—Asahel T. Pierce; A. T. Whiting and Lewis Bartholomew.

Seventh.—In accepting said trust, said Trustees and any successors shall subscribe to the agreement annexed thereto.

Eighth.—Either of said Trustees may resign by a written notice to that effect to the President and Clerk of the Association hereby created, which notice shall be mailed sixty days preceding the time it shall take effect; which said resignation shall be acknowledged before a competent officer that it may be recorded.

Ninth.—In the purchase of said lands, said Trustees shall effect the same upon the best terms in their judgment possible, for the objects and purposes of this Association and of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association: and as such Trustees, shall or may as the case may require, mortgage back the lands when purchased to secure the unpaid purchase money at such times as shall conform to the subscriptions.

Tenth.—Any vacancy in the said board of Trustees shall be filled by the remaining Trustees, with the written, joint approval of the President and Clerk, which appointment shall be duly signed, acknowledged and recorded.

Eleventh.—Such Trustees shall possess no power to create any other debt or to mortgage the grounds so purchased unless authorized so to do by a two-thirds vote of this Association. They shall be subject in their action to the control of this Association, and any one may be removed by a two-thirds vote of this Association, when the vacancy shall be filled by a majority of the Association.

Said Trustees shall be subject to suspension by the Association—they shall attend to the surveying of the lots and grounds and the laying out of the same, also to the appraisal, sale and leasing thereof and as such Trustees, they are empowered to execute, acknowledge and deliver deeds and leases to purchasers and lessees; but no lease shall be made for a longer time than three years, without a written approval of this Association, endorsed thereon and duly acknowledged.

Said Trustees shall not sell or lease any lot or privilege to any person objectionable to the board of Directors of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association, or for any purpose contradictory of its objects or objectionable to its laws, rules and regulations; and all deeds and leases shall be subject thereto and to such other conditions and restrictions as said Trustees shall prescribe; and it shall be the duty of said Trustees from time to time to confer upon matters of interest to both Associations, with the Directors of the said New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association.

Twelfth.—Said Trustees shall appoint one of their number, a Treasurer, who shall also be the Treasurer of the Lake Pleasant Association and a



member of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association, who shall hold on deposit in some suitable bank, the moneys coming into his hands and he shall give bonds in the sum of ten thousand dollars with good and sufficient security for the faithful performance of his trust.

Said Treasurer shall keep a detailed account of receipts and expenditures, stating from whence received and for what purpose disbursed, together with vouchers for all payments made: which books shall be at all times open for the subscribers or their legal representatives, to inspect; and during the month of August in each year, the same shall be upon the grounds of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association.

Thirteenth.—Said Trustees shall pay off and discharge said mortgage at the earliest practicable moment consistent with the welfare of the Association.

Fourteenth.—Said Trustees shall elect from their number a President, Clerk and Treasurer and shall keep accurate minutes of all their proceedings, and the same shall be open to the inspection of every shareholder in this Association, and the Clerk shall print and circulate among the shareholders of this Association in the month of January of each year, a brief statement of all the transactions of the board of Trustees.

The Lake Pleasant Association shall fix the compensation of the board of Trustees on the second Monday of August in each year on the grounds of the Association.

Fifteenth.—As soon as the amount required for the first payment is raised, the subscribers shall

meet and elect by a majority vote, to be canvassed as hereinafter prescribed, for a President, Treasurer and Clerk, who shall hold their offices for one year and shall be elected annually on the second Monday of August—the first year to expire on that day in the coming August.

Sixteenth.—Any person who holds in his own or her right and name, any certificate representing his or her interest in this Association, shall be entitled to one vote for each share of fifty dollars represented in said certificate; and in his or her absence, any person holding a duly signed and acknowledged proxy, may vote in the name, place and stead of such absent person.

Dividends realized and due to the members of this Association shall be paid to the person in whose name the certificate stands, calling for the payment as above by the books of the Association, at the time of payment, but the Treasurer shall for greater safety, require the production of the certificate at the time of payment, and the endorsement of the receipt of payment shall be made thereon and a duplicate receipt given.

Seventeenth.—The Clerk of the Association shall keep an accurate stock or certificate book in which the names of holders of certificates shall be kept; stating the number of shares held, opposite each person's name; and transfer of certificates shall be in writing and duly witnessed and acknowledged and entered upon a book kept for that purpose; and in canvassing of votes upon any and all matters and occasions, the votes shall be received and canvassed according to the record of the share.

holders upon the books of the Association at that time.

Eighteenth.—This Association may be incorporated under the laws of the State, or by special enactment, by a vote of two thirds of its members, to be canvassed as aforesaid: provided the substantial rights and interests of the persons and parties shall be better subserved in the opinion of its members and in that event all officers and members, and Trustees shall conform to legal requirements as decided by the Association.

Nineteenth.—If the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association shall fail for the space of one year, to hold its Campmeeting upon these grounds, all benefits to be derived by it from this Association shall cease and determine; and the funds which would otherwise flow to it, shall be divided among the members of the Association as herein before provided.

Twentieth.—Any person holding a certificate representing an interest or share of fifty dollars, upon registering the same as aforesaid, is a member.

Twenty first.—If any person subscribing hereunto shall fail to pay his or her subscription, the payments already made, if any, may at the option of the board of Trustees, be declared forfeited to the remaining members of the Association, provided the payment shall remain unpaid for thirty days after the date prescribed herein after for its payment: such delinquents shall be liable to an action in the name of said Trustees, to recover the same, and each and every subscriber hereunto, hereby consents that such action may be so brought and maintained.

Twenty second.—This Association shall hold an-

nual meetings for the transaction of business on the second Monday of August in each year at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

The President may also call a special meeting by previous thirty days, written notice mailed to each member, directed to the residence of such member as the same shall appear upon the books of the Association, unless the Clerk shall have better information of the residence of members.

Said notice shall contain the time and place of meeting, which shall be at some convenient place in this state.

At its annual meeting its members may prescribe additional rules, regulations and by laws by a two-thirds vote of those present. It shall require the presence of members representing at least one half of the number of certificates of stock to constitute a quorum.

Twenty third.—At the annual meeting, by a vote representing two thirds of the entire certificates of stock of the Association, favoring it, changes may be made in the substantial parts of this compact or agreement, provided the same do not essentially discriminate between or affect the interests of the members: and such changes, when made shall have the same binding force and effect as if contained herein at the time of the making of this compact or agreement.

Twenty fourth.—In testimony of the adoption of this compact in each and all of its provisions, and of our severally covenanting and agreeing to and with each other and with the Association to faithfully keep and perform the same, we do hereby severally

subscribe our names hereto and do further covenant and agree to pay to the Treasurer of the board of Trustees, to be appointed as herein before provided, the sum set opposite our respective names and seals, one fourth thereof within ten days from the date of subscription, and the remainder within six months from this date if required: and if not so required, the amount which shall be required according to the notice from said Treasurer, such payments to be delivered or forwarded to him.

Witness our hands and seals this 23d day of August, 1886.

Name and P. O. address of each subscriber.

Elmer Terry, Los Angeles Cal. \$2,0000 40 shares.  
 Asabel T. Pierce, Pawtucket R. I. \$500 10 shares.  
 A. H. Dailey Brooklyn N Y \$1000 20 shares.  
 Augustus C. Carey Boston Mass. \$1000 20 shares.  
 Allison T. Whiting Utica N. Y. \$500 10 shares.  
 Lewis Bartholomew Phila. Pa. \$500 10 shares.  
 John White Buffalo New York \$3000 60 shares.  
 Charles R Munger Newton Kansas \$500 10 shares.  
 Noble Hopkins Utica New York \$500 10 shares.  
 Sarah P Wilson Bridgeport Conn. \$500 10 shares.  
 Delia D White Buffalo New York \$500 10 shares.  
 Sarah L Pierce Pawtucket R I \$500 10 shares.  
 C P Wise Turners Falls Mass. \$500 10 shares.  
 H L Barnard Greenfield Mass. \$500 10 shares.  
 Wm. R Tice Brooklyn New York \$1000 20 shares.  
 Joseph Beals Greenfield Mass. \$500 10 shares.  
 James Wilson Bridgeport Conn. \$500 10 shares.  
 John W Wheeler Orange Mass. \$500 10 shares.  
 N S Henry Montague Mass. \$500 10 shares.

Commonwealth of Mass., Suffolk co., Boston  
Mass. October 7 1886.

Then personally appeared the afore named Asa-  
hel T Pierce, A T Whiting and Lewis Bartholomew  
and severally acknowledged the foregoing instru-  
ment to be their free act and deed ; before me,

Horace G Allen.

Notary Public.

Notarial seal.

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Know all men by these presents—that we, the  
subscribers hereunto, having been duly elected Trus-  
tees to carry out and execute the trusts, created by  
the foregoing instrument in writing, do hereby sever-  
ally accept said trust and do hereby covenant and  
agree to and with said Lake Pleasant Association  
and its several members, that we will faithfully  
keep and perform the several duties thereby im-  
posed upon us to the best of our ability.

Witness our hands and seals this 23d day of  
August, 1886.

Asahel T Pierce. (seal.)

Allison T Whiting. (seal)

Lewis Bartholome w. (seaI)

Commonwealth of Mass., Suffolk co. Boston Oc-  
tober 7 1886. Then personally appeared the above  
named Asahel T Pierce, Allison T Whiting and  
Lewis Bartholomew and severally acknowledged  
the foregoing to be their free act and deed : before  
me, Horace G Allen. Notary Public. Notarial seal.



**LAKE PLEASANT ASSOCIATION BUYS OUT THE CAMPMEETING ASSOCIATION IN 1887.**

Know all men by these presents, that by the authority given the board of Directors by the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association, that to facilitate the purchase of the grounds of the said Association, of the Fitchburg Rail Road by the Lake Pleasant Association, that the lease with the said Rail Road be cancelled, upon the agreement submitted to said New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association by the Lake Pleasant Association; and the benefits to this Association thereby derived.

Voted on motion of Mr. Dailey, that the Lake Pleasant Association be requested to give to this Association the customary public grounds to use for Campmeeting purposes during the balance of the term of its lease with the Fitchburg Rail Road Company, which has been cancelled; also the use of the grounds occupied by its buildings and its water privilege, free of rent during said term.

**LAKE PLEASANT ASSOCIATION ACCEPTS.**

The Lake Pleasant Association then presented the following agreement to the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association.

“We accept the proposition of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association and will do all repairs necessary to grounds, stairs &c, which belong to the Lake Pleasant Association—also do the pumping and give to the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association twenty five per cent of the net receipts from the Rail Roads—the New England Spiritualists Campmeeting Association to leave the

buildings in as good condition as it receives them but this does not include rents of grounds of members—the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association to keep the grounds in order from July 15th to September 15th.

A. T. PIERCE.

Signed L. BARTHOLOMEW,  
A. T. WHITING.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS MADE IN  
1889. OFFERED BY A. C. C. AREY.

The officers of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association shall consist of eight Directors, a President, a Vice President and a Clerk. The Directors shall be stockholders in the Lake Pleasant Association and shall be chosen annually by ballot, to serve one year from the first day of January next following said meeting, and a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to a choice.

The President shall be chosen by the Directors from their number. The Directors shall appoint a Clerk, who may or may not be a stockholder in the Lake Pleasant Association. The Treasurer of the Lake Pleasant Association shall be the Treasurer of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association.

TRANSFER TO LAKE PLEASANT ASSOCIATION.

The New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association, a corporation existing under the laws of Massachusetts, for a valuable consideration hereby sells, assigns and transfers and delivers all the personal property of every kind and description, as per

inventory numbered 1 to 7 wherever situated, to Asahel T. Pierce of Pawtucket, Rhode Island; Allison T. Whiting of Utica, New York and Lewis Bartholomew of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Trustees of the Lake Pleasant Association under an indenture dated August 2d, 1886 and recorded in the Franklin County Registry of Deeds, book 394 page 22.

And for a valuable consideration, said Pierce, Bartholomew and Whiting as aforesaid, agree to assume and pay all debts and obligations of said corporation and to save said corporation harmless therefrom.

In witness whereof the said New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association has caused this instrument to be signed by its Board of Directors and said Asahel T. Pierce, Allison T. Whiting and Lewis Bartholomew hereunto set our hands and seals this 3d day of August, 1890.

Joseph Beals; Asahel T. Pierce; James Wilson, Lewis Bartholomew; W. R. Tice; John W. Wheeler, Directors of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association. Witness, J. Milton Young.

Asahel T. Pierce and Lewis Bartholomew, Trustees of the Lake Pleasant Association.

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### SALE OF LAKE PLEASANT TO THE LAKE PLEASANT ASSOCIATION.

In 1887 the Lake Pleasant Association bought the Campmeeting Grove of the Fitchburg Rail Road Company for \$15,000, as will be seen by this deed.

Know all men by these presents: that the Fitchburg Rail Road Company, a corporation existing in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and by virtue

of the laws thereof, in consideration of fifteen thousand dollars paid by Asahel T. Pierce of Pawtucket in the state of Rhode Island, Lewis Bartholomew of Philadelphia in the state of Pennsylvania, and A. T. Whiting of Utica in the state of New York, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby remise, release and forever quit claim unto the said Asahel T. Pierce, Lewis Bartholomew and A. T. Whiting, all that portion of certain real estate situate in Montague in the county of Franklin and Commonwealth aforesaid, near Great Pond, formerly so called, and now known as Lake Pleasant, conveyed to said Fitchburg Rail Road by the inhabitants of the town of Montague, by their deed, recorded in the Franklin county registry of deeds, book 366, page 8, lying northerly of the location of the Vermont and Massachusetts Rail Road—all the right, title and interest acquired by virtue of a certain lease from said Vermont and Massachusetts Rail Road Company for the term of nine hundred and ninety nine years in and to certain tracts of land, situated in said Montague, being the same real estate, conveyed to said Vermont and Massachusetts Rail Road Company by George W. Potter, by his deed, dated August 17, 1872 and recorded in said registry, book 302, page 24, and by Samuel D. Bardwell, by deed dated August 17, 1872 and recorded in said registry, book 297, page 215.

To all which deeds and the deeds therein referred to, reference is hereby made for a description of said real estate—together also with all buildings and personal property thereon, belonging to said corpora-

tions and all easements, privileges and appurtenances and water rights therein belonging.

Subject however to all rights of the Turners Falls Fire District as set forth in chapter 266 of the acts and resolves of said Commonwealth for the year 1886: excepting and reserving also sufficient land adjoining the location aforesaid, for a railroad station and approaches thereto, and the right for the town of Montague aforesaid, or the aforesaid county of Franklin, to take without compensation, as much of said land near said Rail Road station as may be needed for a highway or town way, and wherever the same may be hereafter laid out, such highway to run upon or be laid out south or southwest of the street now laid out and called First Avenue.

To hold the above released premises to the said Asahel T. Pierce, Lewis Bartholomew and A. T. Whiting their heirs and assigns to their use and behoof forever.

And the said Fitchburg Rail Road Company and their successors and assigns, do covenant with the said Pierce, Bartholomew and Whiting, their heirs and assigns, that the premises are free from all encumbrances, made or suffered by said Fitchburg Rail Road Company and that the said Company will and shall warrant and defend the same to the said Pierce, Bartholomew and Whiting, their heirs and assigns forever, against the lawful claims and demands of all persons claiming by, through or under said Fitchburg Rail Road Company but against no other.

In witness whereof the said Fitchburg Rail Road Company, by Elijah B. Phillips, their President and Daniel A. Gleason, their Treasurer, thereunto

duly authorized, have hereunto set their signatures and the corporate seal this twenty ninth day of March in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and eighty seven.'

Fitchburg Rail Road Company by E. B. Phillips, President. Corporate seal.

Countersigned, Daniel A. Gleason, Treasurer.

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of Thomas Williams.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Suffolk County,  
April 1 1887.

Then personally appeared the within named E. B. Phillips and Daniel A. Gleason and acknowledged the within instrument to be the free act and deed of the Fitchburg Rail Road Company.  
Before me, Thomas Whittemore, Justice of the Peace.

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VOTE TO SELL TO THE LAKE PLEASANT ASSOCIATION IN 1887.

At a Directors' meeting held March 27, 1887, the President was authorized to deed the property known as Lake Pleasant Pic-nic grounds, to Asahel T. Pierce of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, Lewis Bartholomew of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and A. T. Whiting of Utica, New York; also all the right, title and interest in land, or that part acquired by lease from the Vermont and Massachusetts Rail Road Company. A true copy, Thomas Whittemore.

Franklin s s.

May 7th 1887.

Recorded and compared by Edwin Stratton Register.



### Failure of the Syndicate at Lake Pleasant.

Some five years ago, in August, 1886, a voluntary association was formed under the title of the "Lake Pleasant Association," for the purpose of purchasing the grounds of the Fitchburg Rail Road Company.

The New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association had carried on meetings for thirteen years, leasing the land of the Rail Road Company. This Company had refused to renew the lease, and hence it became necessary to purchase the grounds.

A strong effort was made to induce the owners of cottages to subscribe a sum sufficient to buy the grounds, but as \$15,000 was the price, the subscription fell short about \$2,000. Then several Spiritualists at Camp, cottagers and others decided to form the Lake Pleasant Association, issue stock to themselves and purchase the grounds and buildings.

A T Pierce, A T Whiting and Lewis Bartholomew were appointed to act as Trustees for this new Association and to make the purchase.

The property was bought, surveyed and divided into building lots, and each cottager was offered a chance to buy at a fixed valuation, the land on which his cottage stood. In the course of a year nearly all the cottagers had purchased their several lots.

Meantime, the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association had carried on meetings at a loss, and it became necessary to get out of debt. Finally the Lake Pleasant Association assumed the debt of the Campmeeting Association and took its

property, the hotel, the water and electric light plants, &c.

Then the "Syndicate" through the Campmeeting Association, took control of the meetings. This method became necessary because the Lake Pleasant Association was not a chartered body while the other was.

The result from the three years of management by the "Syndicate" was a series of well-conducted meetings, but at a loss to the management, the receipts each year not meeting the expenses.

The "Syndicate" then found itself \$4,000 in debt as the result of assuming the debt of the Campmeeting Association, and the loss in running the meetings.

The "Syndicate" have during the past five years, declared one dividend of 25 per cent, but have received no interest on their original outlay of \$15,000. The following statement of Mr. A T Pierce, the present Treasurer of the "Syndicate," will show how much the receipts from the sale of land &c, have been up to August 1891.

Mr. Barnard, Dear Sir:—Mr. Bartholomew's new book shows he has taken for land, including rents, interests and sales, \$20,212.58. August 28, 1891.

A T PIERCE.

It appears that the "Syndicate" still owes its stockholders \$15,000 minus the dividend of \$3,750 plus loan at Crocker Savings Bank, \$4,000; equals \$15,250: that is, a sum \$250 larger than the original purchase price.

The reader will be interested to know what has become of the \$20,212.58 receipts from sales, rents

and interest. The following official statement, taken from the printed report to the stockholders will give some of the desired information.

LAKE PLEASANT ASSOCIATION ASSETS.

January 1, 1891.

Cr.

By cash in Treasury,	\$ 186.11
“ Stock at Lake Pleasant	102.53
“ Ice at “	100.00
“Property from N E S C A	7,150.00
“ Amount due for land. Stock-	
holders per cent,	3,000.00
“ Land surveyed	24,300.00.
“Land not surveyed.	5,000.00
“ Electric Light Plant,	2,000.00.
“Depot Buildings,	1,200.00
“ Pavilion.	1,200.00.
“ Engine House,	300.00.
“ Steam Engine and Pump	600.00,
“ Water Pipe laid,	1,000.00,
“ Tank and House.	1,000,00.
“ Boats,	800.00.
“ Land sold, due Aug.1892,	300.00.

Total, \$48,238.64.

Dr.

To Capital Stock,	\$15,000.00.
“ Bills payable,	3,200.00.
“ Account about,	200.

Total, \$18,400.00.

Balance, \$29,838.64.

By the above statement it appears that there remains much land unsold. The value put upon this

land is too high. Most of it remains unsold to this day.

\$8,000 would be a more sensible valuation. Deducting \$21,000 from the inflated credit side of the above statement, it shows the bankrupt condition of the "Syndicate" after five years of unfortunate management. Although the "Syndicate" had already received in cash \$20,212.58, it had not applied a dollar of this money to the liquidation of the purchase money. Instead of doing this, the "Syndicate" began to waste money on premature "*improvements?*" expensive salaries, bands and probably some "*graft.*"

The opposition to the management of the Lake Pleasant Association by a minority of its stockholders, and intensified by a large number of cottagers, caused the following protest to be adopted Aug. 1891.

"The management of the Lake Pleasant Association having purchased the grounds at Lake Pleasant Mass., ostensibly for camp-meeting purposes and to promote the cause of Spiritualism, and having sold a large number of lots of land to Spiritualists, upon which they have made improvements, anticipating considerate treatment and cordial co-operation in promoting the interests of the place; the management having so conducted itself as to create great discord upon the grounds, and to stand in hostile attitude toward a large number of persons, showing to the minds of the subscribers a lack of judgment or interest in the general welfare of the campers at Lake Pleasant:—

Therefore, we, the subscribers, do hereby enter our protest against the arbitrary course pursued by the management of the Lake Pleasant Association.

We do hereby request such of the members as do

not approve of the course of the management of the Lake Pleasant Association, to take steps to wind up its affairs, and to have the property sold, and do severally pledge to them our unwavering aid and support.

We also agree to contribute such amounts as are set opposite our names to defray the expenses of such proceedings. Dated Aug. 14, 1891."

This protest was signed by more than 100 cottagers up to Sept. 1.

If the New England Spiritualist Camp-meeting Association shall so alter its by-laws as to make each cottager a member by virtue of the fact of ownership of real estate at Lake Pleasant, make a new issue of stock of a number of shares sufficient to give each cottager one on the payment of the price of a share, and a fund thus raised could be applied to the stock and debts of the Lake Pleasant Association, that temporary body, organized for the purpose of transferring the property of the Railroad Company to the New England Spiritualist Camp-meeting Association, having finished the work laid out for it to perform, it could then dissolve and the management in future be based upon the popular vote of the whole number of cottagers.

**Lake Pleasant Association sells to the New England Campmeeting Association in 1895.**

**DEED.**

Know all persons by these presents:—That we, Allison T. Whiting of Utica, New York; Henry C. Douglass of Windsor Locks, Connecticut, and Abraham H. Dailey of Brooklyn, New York, Trustees of the Lake Pleasant Association, an incorporated association of persons by virtue of a certain compact and articles of association, bearing date the 23d day of August, 1886, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds of Franklin county, Mass, book 394, page 22, parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of ten thousand dollars agreed to be paid by the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association, the party of the second part, as is provided, specified and conditioned in a certain contract, bearing even date herewith, made, executed and delivered, each to the other, by the first and second part, the said parties of the first part being duly authorized so to do by said Lake Pleasant Association, do hereby bargain, quit claim, sell and convey to the said New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association, the said party of the second part, all of that certain piece or parcel of real estate situate in the town of Montague, county of Franklin, commonwealth of Massachusetts, near "Great Pond" formerly so called, now known as Lake Pleasant, which was conveyed to the Fitchburg Rail Road Company by the inhabitants of said



town of Montague, by their deed recorded in the Registry of Deeds of the county of Franklin, book 366, page 8, lying northerly of the location of the Vermont and Massachusetts Rail Road; also all the right, title and interest which said Fitchburg Rail Road Company acquired by virtue of a certain lease from said Vermont and Massachusetts Rail Road Company for the term of 999 years, in and to certain tracts of land, situated in said town of Montague, being the same real estate sold to the Vermont and Massachusetts Rail Road Company by George W. Potter, by his deed, dated August 17, 1872 and recorded in said Registry, book 302, page 24: and by Samuel D. Bardwell, by his deed dated August 17, 1872, and recorded in said Registry, 297, page 215: to all of which reference is made for a further and more complete description, and which was by said Fitchburg Rail Road Company conveyed to Asahel T. Pierce, Lewis Bartholomew and A. T. Whiting, by deed dated May 7, 1887 and recorded in the office of said Registry in book 394, page 1, to which reference is also made for a further description.

And also all the right, title and interest in all of that real estate situate in said town of Montague at Lake Pleasant aforesaid which said Pierce, Bartholomew and Whiting acquired from the Vermont and Massachusetts Rail Road Company by deed, dated March 23, 1887 and recorded in said Registry on the seventh day of May, 1887 in book 304 page 3, to which reference is hereby made for a further description.

The following, nevertheless, described lots of

land claimed to have been sold or contracted to be sold by one or more of the trustees of the said Lake Pleasant Association, as the same are laid out and designated by a certain plan of streets and building lots of Lake Pleasant, surveyed October and November, 1886 by C. T. Wolcott and filed in Registry of deeds, are exempted from said sale. [List omitted]

Said parties of the first part also sell hereby to said party of the second part, all water and land rights, all leasehold rights and interests, all buildings and improvements upon said premises, all water plants, dynamos, electric lighting apparatus, one steamer and thirteen row boats on said premises, and all machinery and personal property belonging to said parties of the first part, all claims, dues, demands and causes of action, except when reservations are made by agreement between the parties hereto.

To have and to hold the above described premises so sold and conveyed to said party of the second part, its successors, assigns, grantees and lessees forever.

The above described premises are subject to a certain mortgage held by the Crocker Institution of Savings of Turners Falls, to secure a balance due for money loaned to A. T. Pierce and others, amounting to about twenty eight hundred dollars; and to a certain other mortgage made to John W. Wheeler to secure him and others upon a certain note upon which there is stated to be due a balance of about seven hundred and fifty dollars, which said several amounts, when ascertained, shall be deducted from the purchase money, and which said party of the second part agrees to pay and discharge.

Said parties of the first part hereby sell and transfer to said party of the second part, all roads and roadways and right to control ingress and egress to and from said grounds, which they themselves have, and right, and rights to assess and collect the three per cent taxes on lots hertofore sold by it at Lake Pleasant and revenue to be derived from privileges, granted to C. C. Jackson or any other persons.

This instrument does not and is not intended to exempt from conveyance to the party of the second part, lots wrongfully or erroneously taken by any person by deed from any of the trustees of the Lake Pleasant Association at any time; nor does it give said party of the second part any cause of action arising from such cause against the parties of the first part, but in all such cases, the cause of action remains in said trustees with the duty and obligation of enforcing the same for the benefit of the party of the second part as provided in said agreement between the parties hereto, bearing even date herewith: nor shall this deed be construed to give said party of the second part, the right to enforce adjustment of accounts between the said trustees or said trustees and any other person or corporation, but the same shall be adjusted by said trustees or their successors in their own names; and any benefits arising therefrom shall accrue to said party of the second part as provided in said agreement.

And said parties of the first part further covenant to and agree with said party of the second part that they have not done or committed any act whereby either said premises or property hereby sold or conveyed, has been incumbered or the title thereto,

impaired, excepting as aforesaid, and that they will upon reasonable request of the said party of the second part, but at its own cost and expense, execute, acknowledge and deliver any other or further conveyances requisite to more effectually vest the title of said premises and property in said party of second part or its assigns, hereby intended to be sold and conveyed to it.

In testimony whereof, the parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals this ninth day of November, 1895.

ALLISON T. WHITING,

Treasurer of the Lake Pleasant Association.

Trustee " HENRY C. DOUGLASS.

Trustee " ABRAHAM H. DAILEY.

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of——

State of New York, County of Kings, city of  
Brooklyn, s s.

On the ninth day of November, 1895, before me personally came Allison T. Whiting, Henry C. Douglass and Abram H. Dailey and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be their free act and deed. Severally before me,

ARTHUR L. TOMES, Notary Public.

Kings county. Notarial seal.

State of Massachusetts, county of Franklin, town of Montague.

On the 28th day of December, 1895 before me personally came Allison T. Whiting, Henry C. Douglass and Abram H. Dailey and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be their free act and deed. Severally before me, Chester C. Conant, Justice of the Peace.

Franklin s s. December 28 1895. Recorded and compared; attest Edwin Stratton, Registrar.

### Three per cent Tax for 1902.

Know all men by these presents.—That, whereas it was provided in the conveyances and deeds of the Lake Pleasant Association and the grantees named in said deed of the lands owned by said Lake Pleasant Association at Lake Pleasant, that said deed should be taken by the several grantees, subject to the payment of an annual tax, not exceeding three per cent upon the cost price of the several lots so conveyed as assessed by the Trustees of the Lake Pleasant Association:

And whereas Asahel T. Pierce and Lewis Bartholomew, two of said Trustees, who made such conveyances, and were referred to in said deed, are deceased, and I, Allison T. Whiting of Utica, New York, am the only surviving Trustee, now therefore as such Trustee, by virtue of the authority and power given me to that end, as sole surviving Trustee, do hereby lay and assess a tax of three per cent upon and against each of the lots so conveyed, containing said provision, upon the cost price of each of said lots—the same to be paid to the Treasurer of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association for campmeeting purposes.

Witness my hand and seal this 9th day of September, A. D. 1902.

Seal.

Allison T. Whiting, Trustee.

State of New York; county of Kings s. s. September 9, 1902.

Then personally appeared the above named Alli-

son T. Whiting and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his free act and deed.

Before me, Arthur F. Tomes, Notary Public.  
Kings county. Notarial seal.

Franklin, s s Registry of Deeds. January 15 1903.  
Recorded and compared. Attest.

John D. Bowker, Registrar.

**Three per cent for 1903.**

Know all persons by these presents,  
That I, Allison T. Whiting of Utica, New York, sole surviving Trustee of the Lake Pleasant Association, do hereby, by virtue of the authority vested in me as such Trustee, levy a tax of three per cent on the cost value of each and every lot of land, sold by said Trustees or Trustee of said Association, subject to such assessment for general Campmeeting purposes for the year 1903, situate at Lake Pleasant town of Montague, Franklin county, Mass.

Done at Utica, New York, August 31 1903.

Witness my hand and seal.

Allison T. Whiting.

In presence of Ruben Dodd.

Acknowledged before Winifred Porter, Notary Public, August 31, 1903. Notarial seal.

**Three per cent Tax for 1904.**

Know all persons by these presents.

That whereas it was provided in the conveyances and deeds of the Lake Pleasant Association and the grantees named in said deeds, of the lands owned by said Lake Pleasant Association at Lake Pleasant, town of Montague, county of Franklin, Mass., that said deeds should be taken by the several grantees,



subject to the payment of an annual tax, not exceeding three per cent upon the cost price of the several lots so conveyed as assessed by the trustees of the said Lake Pleasant Association:

And whereas Asahel T. Pierce and Lewis Bartholomew, two of said Trustees who made such conveyances and were referred to in said deeds, are deceased, and I, Allison T. Whiting of Utica, New York, am the only surviving Trustee; now, therefore as such Trustee, by virtue of authority and power given me to that end, as sole surviving Trustee, do hereby levy and assess a tax upon and against such of the lots so conveyed, containing said provision, of three per cent upon the cost price of said lots, the same to be paid to the Treasurer of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association for camp meeting purposes.

Witness my hand and seal this 19th day of July,  
A. D. 1904.                      A. T. Whiting.                      seal.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, county of Franklin: s s. Then personally appeared the above named A. T. Whiting and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his free act and deed.

Before me, Albert T. Blinn, Justice of the Peace.  
Franklin, s s. Registry, September 11 1905.

Received and compared.

Attest John Bowker, Registrar.

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#### Clerk's Salary.

In 1897 the clerk's salary was \$200. J. B. Hatch, Jr. a member of the Board of Directors in 1897, moved in the Board that the salary of the clerk Blinn be raised to \$300 for the year 1900. This motion was carried by the Board, and the clerk's salary has remained at \$300 ever since.

## HARRIET M. REED CONNICK AND THE WATER SUIT.

Mrs. Harriet Reed Connick in 1901, refused to pay the water tax because the three per cent tax was included in the bill.

Clerk Blinn reported to the Board of Directors, that in accordance with the instructions of the Directors, he had presented a bill to Mrs. H. R. Connick. She had refused to pay the same—stating that she would pay a reasonable water tax, but not the one assessed.

The water pipes to her premises were severed a week later, by direction of the clerk, acting under the authority of the Association.

Mrs. Connick, later tendered payment of money to the amount assessed for water during the season of 1900, and requested that the pipes to her premises be connected: the clerk replying that he had no authority to connect the pipes.

During his absence from the the grounds, Mrs. Connick had a plumber connect the said pipes without permission or authority from the Directors.

After listening to the report of the clerk it was moved by Byron Loomis and seconded by Mrs. A. E. Barnes that a committee consisting of Directors Streeter, Crafts and clerk Blinn be and are hereby authorized to ascertain all facts in regard to the Connick matter and place the affair in the hands of Samuel D. Conant for prosecution: also to ascertain if she is violating the campmeeting law, and

have lawyer Conant act for the Association in that matter, and to use his efforts in defending the interests of the Association; the motion being carried by an unanimous vote.

**DEED TO LYDIA M. REED AND HER  
DAUGHTER, HATTIE M. REED (CONNICK.)**

Know all men by these presents:—

In consideration of one hundred and fifteen dollars paid by Lydia M. Reed and her daughter, Hattie M. Reed, both of Lake Pleasant, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged do hereby remise, release and forever quit claim unto the said Lydia M. Reed and to the said Hattie M. Reed, her daughter, a certain piece or parcel of land, situated in the town of Montague, county of Franklin aforesaid, bounded and described as follows:

Commencing at a stake on Montague street, running westerly forty two feet and eight inches, thence southerly twenty five feet and five inches; thence easterly, forty five feet and seven inches; thence northerly on Montague street, twenty seven feet to place of beginning; containing about eleven hundred and forty square feet of land, be the same more or less, being lot numbered 51 Montague street on plan drawn by C. T. Wolcott.

The grantees (Lydia M. Reed and Hattie M. Reed Connick) herein named, their heirs and assigns, shall pay to the Treasurer of the Campmeeting (Association) annually while such Association is occupying these grounds in the town of Montague, such sum, not exceeding three per cent of the cost price of the within described lot, for general campmeeting expenses, as assessed by the Trustees.

Signed &c. August 24, 1887.

A. T. Pierce—A. T. Whiting—Lewis Barth Homew.

Acknowledged and recorded, Edwin Stratton, Registrar. Recorded in book 397, page 22, Franklin county (Mass.) Registry.

### FIRST SUIT AGAINST HATTIE R. CONNICK.

A few years after this deed was accepted by Hattie Reed Connick, she refused to pay the three per cent tax. The Association brought suit against her for the collection of this tax amounting to about \$3.45 dollars year.

When the case came to trial in Greenfield, Judge Lyman asked the plaintiff's attorney, "By what authority do you assess this tax?"

The plaintiff's lawyer, not knowing that proof of this authority was to be found in the Registry of Deeds in same building, could not readily answer.

Upon this the judge dismissed the case; therefore the claim that the defendent won in the suit, is not correct. The proper way to report the result is.

*The case was never tried!*

### SECOND SUIT AGAINST HATTIE CONNICK.

In 1902 the Campmeeting Association brought suit against Hattie Reed Connick for trespass in connecting her pipes to the water pipes of the Association. The following official copy of the decree of the court and costs shows that the Association won.

*Office of the Clerk of Courts; Greenfield, Mass.*

*July 30 1903.*

*This is to certify that in the Case of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association vs Hattie M. R. Connick, entered in our Superior Court, that*

*final decree was entered January 6 1903, and by said decree the respondent was ordered to pay to the Campmeeting Association damages assessed at \$6.75 and costs of court.*

*Attest, Clifton L. Field, clerk.*

*New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association vs Hattie M. R. Connick.*

*On February 11th, 1903 Samuel D. Conant, att'y for the plaintiff in the above action, received from Hattie M. R. Connick, through her attorney, damages of \$6.75 and costs of \$66.34.*

*Samuel D. Conant, Att'y.*

Total amount of three per cent taxes due up to 1907 and unpaid January 1st, from Hattie Reed Connick \$129,24.

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#### DEED OF THE TEMPLE LOT.

[Extract.] Know all men by these presents.

That we, Asahel T. Pierce, Allison T. Whiting and James Wilson, Trustees of the Lake Pleasant Association, in consideration of one dollar and other valid considerations paid by the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby give, grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the said New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association, a certain piece or parcel of land situated in the town of Montague, county of Franklin aforesaid, bounded and described as follows; commencing at a stake and stone on the southeastly corner of Adams and Auditorium streets, on the grounds of the Lake Pleasant Association and running thence, easterly along the south side of Adams street, 290 feet more or less

to the bridge over the Lake Pleasant outlet, thence southwesterly 300 feet, more or less, to a stake and stone on the easterly line of Auditorium street near the creek, thence northerly along the easterly line of Auditorium street, 300 feet, more or less, to the place of beginning.

Said premises to be used for an auditorium and buildings for campmeeting purposes, a library and public meetings only, said premises to revert to the grantees unless buildings of the value of \$1000 be erected thereon within five years.

A. T. Pierce—A. T. Whiting—James Wilson.

Signed and witnessed as usual, August 26 1892.

Recorded in Franklin county Registry, book 397 page 247.

### **JOSEPH BEALS RETIRES FROM THE PRESIDENCY IN 1892.**

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by rising vote at the Annual meeting of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association, August 18, 1892.

#### **RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF DR. JOSEPH BEALS.**

In kind remembrance and deep appreciation of the nineteen years of self-sacrificing services of Dr. Joseph Beals as President of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association; we, the members of said Association tender our hearty thanks to him for his admirable devotion to our cause, our warmest gratitude for his sincere sympathy for all the campers and visitors these many years; and our earnest wishes that he may enjoy a serene and happy sunset of life.



An honored President, a man of strict integrity and upright conduct, we pray that he may be, for many years to come, a dweller with us in this beautiful summer home, and enjoy the friendship of all the people at Lake Pleasant.

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### DEED TO GEORGE PASCO.

Extract—Know all men by these presents:—In consideration of one hundred and two dollars, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, we do hereby remise, release and forever quit claim unto the said George Pasco, a certain piece or parcel of land, situated in the town of Montague, county of Franklin aforesaid, bounded and described as follows—commencing at a stake, corner of Broadway and Owasso streets, running westerly along Owasso street, thirty feet eight inches, thence, southerly twenty seven feet and six inches, thence easterly thirty one feet and three inches, thence northerly along Broadway twenty seven feet and four inches to place of beginning, containing about 850 square feet of land, more or less, being lot numbered 1 Broadway on plan drawn by C. T. Wolcott &c.

The grantee herein named (George Pasco) his heirs and assigns shall pay to the Treasurer of the Campmeeting (Association) annually while such Association is occupying these grounds in the town of Montague, such sum not exceeding three per cent of the cost price of the within described lot, for general campmeeting purposes as assessed by Trustees.

Asahel T. Pierce—A. T. Whiting—Lewis Bartholomew. Acknowledged October 5 1889 before

Clarence E. Jackson, Justice of the Peace.

Recorded in Franklin county Registry, book 397,  
page 177.

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### SUIT AGAINST GEORGE PASCO.

In 1906 the Campmeeting Association brought suit against George Pasco for refusing to pay three per cent tax. The case was tried at Greenfield in August, 1906. The judge decided in favor of the defendant. The case was appealed to the superior court, and at this date, is still pending.

The amount of his tax is \$3.06 a year. Total amount due and unpaid, October 1, 1906, \$18.36.

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### DELINQUENT TAX PAYERS.

There are now in 1906, thirty owners of real estate who refuse or neglect to pay the three per cent tax. The total amount due and unpaid up to Oct. 1 1906 is \$530.75.

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### Lake Pleasant Newspapers.

*The Campmeeting Guide*, by H. A. Budington.

*Lake Pleasant Siftings*, by W. H. Spear.

*Wildwood Messenger*, by J. Milton Young.

*The Pinewood Star*, by Herbert S. Streeter.

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### Presidents of the Campmeeting Associa'n.

Dr. Joseph Beals, Greenfield, Mass. 1874—1892.

Hon. A. H. Dailey, Brooklyn, N. Y. 1893—1907.

R. F. Churchill, Greenfield, Mass. 1907—

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### Clerks.

Henry Smith—N S Henry—John Harvey Smith

J Milton Young—Albert P Blinn.

**Treasurers.**

Harvey Lyman—T W Coburn—W C Bryant—T T Greenwood—M V Lincoln—W R Tice—Lewis Bartholomew—A T Pierce—Fred Haslam—Byron Loomis.

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**Vice Presidents.**

E W Dickinson—M V Lincoln—Mary A Lyman  
 H H Brigham—John F Arnold—Mrs. A H Coburn  
 E A Smith S B Nichols Newman Weeks—Silas  
 Mason—David Jones—Noble Hopkins—David P  
 Barber—W R Tice—John W Wheeler—Sarah P  
 Wilson—H A Budington—J B Hatch Jr—Alice S  
 Waterhouse—F B Woodbury—Ira Moore Courlis  
 R F Churchill—Mrs. M L Sanger—Tillie U Rey-  
 nolds—W W Lee.

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**Speakers and Mediums employed by Association.**

An incomplete list.

John Collier, Sarah Byrnes, J M Peebles, Nellie Brigham, J Rhodes Buchanan, Juliette Severence. Moses Hull, William Denton, H B Storer. Ed S Wheeler, Charles Dawbarn, J Frank Baxter, Edgar Emerson, Tilley Reynolds, Carrie Twing, R Shepherd Lillie, Fred Willis, Lyman Howe, Lizzie Doten, A B French, Sidney Dean, Prof. Lockwood, Oscar Edgerly, Kate Stiles, Jennie Hagan, Cora Richmond, Maud Lord, George Fuller, J J Morse, Mattie Hull, Hudson Tuttle, J Clegg Wright, N J Willis, Henry Kiddle, Fanny Allyn, Robert Ingersoll, Juliette Yeaw, Ira Moore Courliss, W F Peck, Fanny Davis Smith, F A Wiggin, A J Davis, Dean Clark, A E Tisdale Hortense Holcomb, F Roscoe,

T Grimshaw, Ida Whitlock, Colby-Luther, May Pepper, B Fay Mills, Edith Nickless, John Slater, E P Thorndike, Clara Banks, Lizzie Harlow, Will Fletcher, Susan Fletcher, Emma Hardinge, Clara F Conant, Charles Hidden, J Kenyon, M T Longley, W B Mills, Giles Stebbins, Willard Hull, A B Richmond, B F Underwood, H P Fairfield, Zaida Kates, George Kates, Katie Ham, Alfred Denton Cridge, E B Kenyon, A Pfenning, Rev. Rexford Rev. B F Austin, R F Churchill, Nettie Harding, Carrie Thomas, A P Blinn, Blanch Brainard, Frank Mason, Frances Mason, A H Dailey, Alice Whall W J Colville, W T Hutchins. Wilson Fritch, H Darmapala.

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#### BOND HOLDERS IN 1906.

Ladies' Improv't Society, Lake Pleasant	3	Bonds.
Henry C. Douglass; Windsor Locks Conn.	30	"
Mrs. J. B. Douglass,	5	"
Mrs. James Wilson, Bridgeport,	6	"
Mrs F. L. Cook, Hartford,	4	"
Albert P. Blinn, Norwich,	2	"
Miss. L. H. Fletcher, Westford, Mass.	10	"
Mrs. A. E. Barnes, Boston,	1	"
Miss E. P. Morse, Marlboro,	4	"
Mrs. Mary Howe,	4	"
Mrs. M. A. Shaw,	4	"
Mrs. L. B. Westcott	2	"
Mrs. E. S. Morrill, Amesbury	2	"
Austin A. Stone Roxbury	4	"

Mary F. Holman, Winsted, Conn.	10	"
Dr. E. A. Smith, Brandon, Vermont	5	"
Mrs. Jos. La Fumee, Brooklyn, N. Y.	1	"
A. H. Dailey	8	"
Rosalie Dailey,	4	"
Mrs. W. T. Deane, Troy,	2	"
A. T. Whiting, Utica,	10	"

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Total number of bonds, 121.

Par value of each bond, \$50. Total value, \$6.050.

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**ABRAM H. DAILEY RETIRES FROM THE  
PRESIDENCY IN 1906.**

**RESOLUTIONS PASSED AUGUST 20, 1906 IN HONOR  
OF PRESIDENT DAILEY.**

Resolved that the thanks of the members of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association are hereby tendered to Hon. A. H. Dailey for his faithful and valuable services as President for the last fourteen years.

That the people of Lake Peasant join with the members of the Association in the hope that he may be spared many years to enjoy the physical and spiritual life, found at Lake Pleasant, assuring him that he has the respect and cordial sympathy of all the people here, in his illness; and that this Association hereby creates the office of Honorary President and unanimously elects Abram H. Dailey to that office.

### **President Dailey explains the three per cent exemption tax.**

This is the explanation why some of the owners of lots within the limits of the lands of the New England Spiritualists' Campmeeting Association, do not pay taxes to that Association, the same as others do.

At the time the Lake Pleasant Association was formed, the New England Spiritualists' Campmeeting Association had been several years in existence.

It leased the land upon which it had erected its buildings, its Auditorium, and its members had built their cottages and tents. That land was owned by the Fitchburg and Vermont and Massachusetts Rail Road Companies. These corporations are financial concerns, and few, if any of their members, were favorably inclined, from a religious stand-point, toward Spiritualism.

There were other Associations which would be glad to own these grounds.

The Fitchburg Railroad Company desired to sell, but the Campmeeting Association had no money. The friends of the Campmeeting Association conceived of the scheme to form a Syndicate of persons who would raise among themselves \$15,000 and purchase the land (over 100 acres), and out of the sale of the lots, be reimbursed, with interest. They would also improve the property and secure the Campmeeting Association a place to hold its sessions, and its members their homes.

Desiring to incorporate the Syndicate thus formed and called the Lake Pleasant Association, I made application to the Commissioner of Corporations of



Massachusetts for a charter, and was refused, on the ground that the laws of Massachusetts did not permit the formation of a corporation to deal in land.

Therefore the scheme was formulated to take title to the land in the name of three persons, to hold the same as trustees for the benefit of the remainder of the Syndicate, to lay out the land and sell the lots and out of the proceeds of those sales from time to time, as money was received, declare and pay to the members of the Syndicate, pro rata, the amounts that they had advanced, with interest, until the whole amount was liquidated.

The whole \$15,000 was represented by three hundred shares or certificates of stock, of the par value of \$50 each, which was exactly what it cost the members. This stock was to draw dividends, and it was calculated that in a short time, from the sale of lots, every person would receive back the money invested, with interest.

It was the purpose of some of the Syndicate, that then, the property remaining unsold, would be turned over to the Campmeeting Association or its stock surrendered. I know that was my purpose.

The three trustees proceeded to sell the lots, and did sell a large number, and derived a large sum of money from those sales. They declared a dividend of twenty-five per cent upon all of the stock, and that was all the cash payment that was ever made to the members of the Syndicate for their investment.

Some of the members of the Syndicate purchased lots from the trustees at their fair valuation, upon which their cottages or tents were erected, or upon

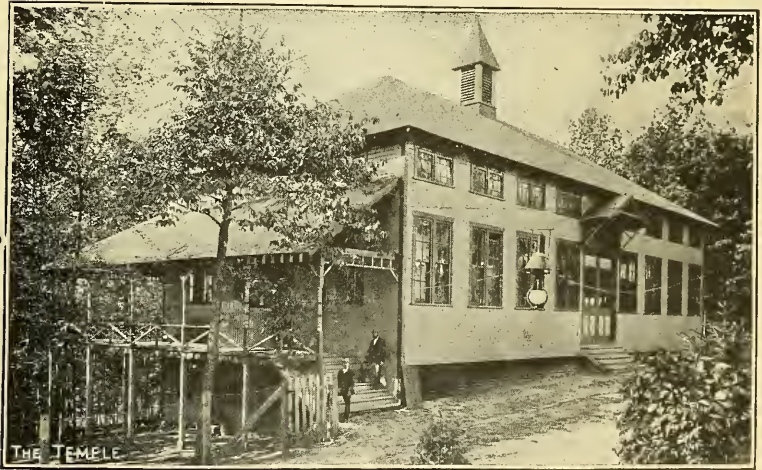
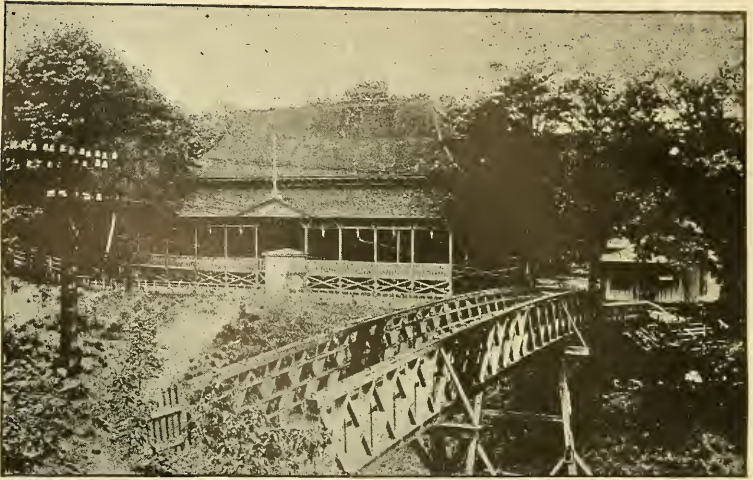
which they built, and credited the Syndicate with the cash value of the lots thus taken, and upon these improved lots they paid three per cent tax to the Campmeeting Association.

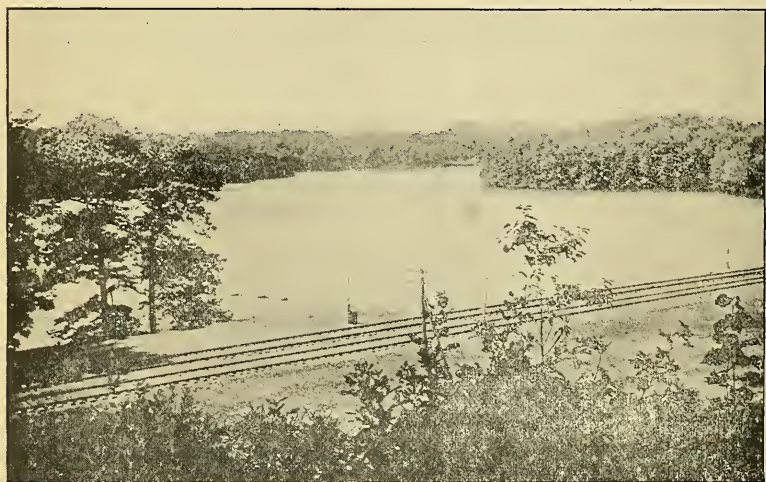
Consequently the balance due to the members of the Syndicate for the amounts they had advanced, as represented by their stock, remained unpaid, and the interest was constantly accumulating.

The management of the Lake Pleasant Association, or Syndicate, undertook to run and operate the Campmeeting Association, with the consent of that Association, in order to avoid friction and obtain better results.

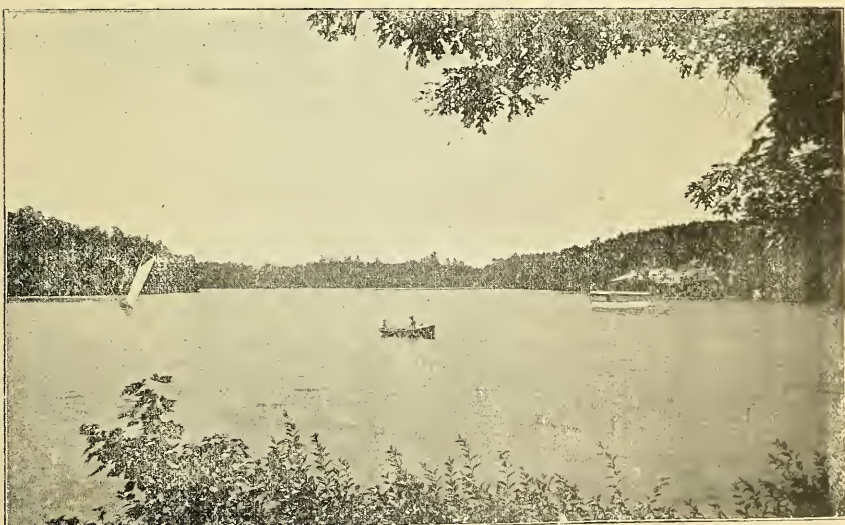
A few years of that experiment showed that the scheme was impracticable, and had engendered serious hostility between different members of the Syndicate, and between the Syndicate and the Campmeeting Association.

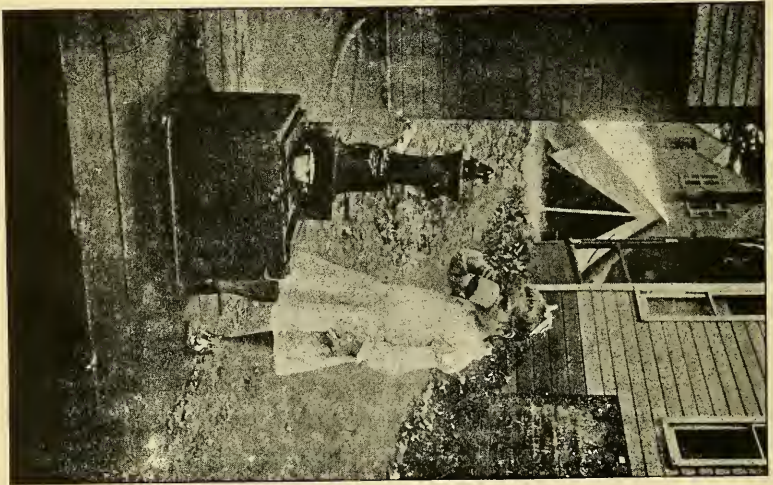
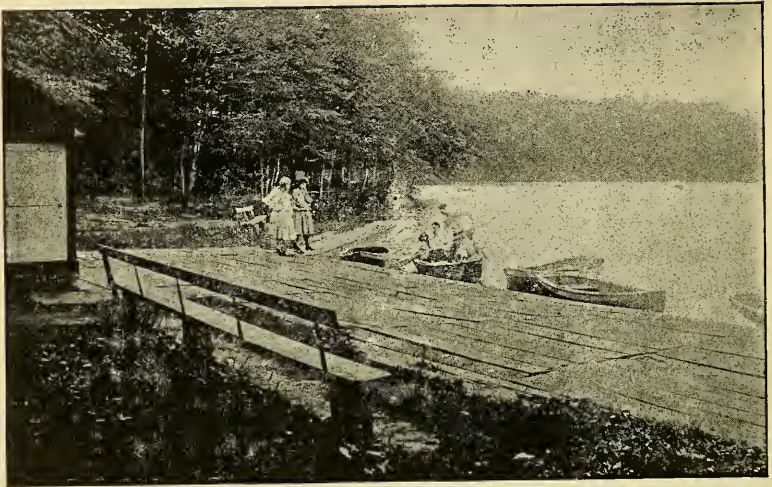
The final outcome was the virtual bankruptcy of the Lake Pleasant Association, and the sale of its property to the Campmeeting Association for the aggregate amount of its debts, to be assumed and paid by the Campmeeting Association; it also being provided that the members of the Syndicate, or their representatives, who held these certificates of stock, should be reimbursed in land for the unpaid amount they had invested, and interest thereon, and that, as this land which they were to take, was not improved, and afforded no revenue, it would be unjust to compel the owners of those lots to pay any tax to the Campmeeting Association, until some revenue could be derived from the lots, as they would be a source of expense, rather than of revenue. They













would in any event, be liable for State and Town taxes.

Therefore, until these lots thus taken are improved, or are sold by the stockholders, they are not and should not be liable to pay any tax to the Campmeeting Association. That was the understanding and agreement at the time the property was purchased by it and when the Syndicate turned the same over to the Campmeeting Association.

Certainly no injustice is done to any person by this arrangement. The people who put their money into this property became its virtual owners, and when they sold, had the right to insist upon some method to get their money back, and interest out of the sale, or by reserving lots, and until these lots are improved or sold so as to derive some revenue, they should not be subject to taxation.

If the Campmeeting Association will take these lots at their apprizal, I for one will be glad to sell the few I have not already given away. They are to me only a source of expense, and I will gladly part with them on most liberal terms.

Brooklyn, Nov. 21, 1906.

A. H. DAILEY.

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### Schubert Quartette.

The star feature in the vocal music rendered at Lake Pleasant was the singing by the Schubert Quartette of Boston, consisting of four ladies, who charmed the throngs at Lake Pleasant for a number of years. Their highly-cultured and evenly blended voices, touched with exquisite harmony every song they sung; a fair representation of the musical art of Boston. In appreciative memory of their sweet symphonies, a friend has penned these lines.

Long live our gifted and noble quartette:

In solo and chorus and charming duet,  
May they sing away sorrow and hearts fill with joy.

Their talents may often the people employ;  
And cheer them with shekels for beautiful song:

Late, late may they join the heavenly throng.

Our Whitcome, the queenly, with barytone voice;

Its pure and full volume makes thousands rejoice;  
And dimple-cheeked Butler, the flute-singing alto,

Her clear and bright toning, illumines the canto;  
While score-writing Wooster, with bell-ringing tenor.

Now rivals the bugle, then lulls to a zephyr.

And brilliant Magoon, with bird-like soprano,

Oft thrills with her forte or soothes with piano.

### **The Great Fire of 1907.**

Fire on April 25th, 1907, originating from the explosion or the overturning of a lamp in the cottage of G. F. McKenney, formerly the "Cane" Smith cottage on Broadway, swept the thickly-settled part of the camp grounds early this morning, and within three hours had destroyed 112 buildings, including 100 cottages, and caused damage conservatively estimated at \$100,000.

Fanned by a strong wind, the flames ate up the lightly constructed buildings as if they had been of card-board. Twenty-five families who are year-round residents of the settlement, lost their homes and most of their household goods, and it was only by good fortune that loss of life and injury was avoided.

Help was summoned from Turners Falls, Millers Falls and Greenfield, and firemen from the first two named towns hurried to the scene. The lack of means for pumping water made the use of fire-fighting

apparatus impossible, but the members of the fire companies, aided by the settlers and others, did excellent work in bucket brigades.

The progress of the fire finally was checked by the digging of trenches at the bridge over the ravine which separates the two portions of the grounds. Had this bridge been burned, the fire would have swept the Highlands and destroyed the Temple.

#### HOTEL AND PAVILION GO.

The seven acres of ground burned over, comprise a part of the cottage settlement of the New England Spiritualist Campmeeting Association. The buildings burned include the 75-room Hotel, which had been leased by Savage & Hodgkins of South Deerfield for the coming season; the large dancing Pavilion, the Association headquarters, several store buildings, in one of which the post-office was located.

Postmaster, Leon Henry managed to get out the government property and supplies. The buildings on the old grounds which escaped the flames, include the rail-road station and dining room, the wharf and all the cottages on the Bluff west of the cottage of Tilley Reynolds inclusive, and all the cottages on Montague street beginning with the Sargent cottage and extending west to the barns and including 6th to 10th Avenues inclusive.

Mr. McKenney says the fire originated in this manner. He arose about 4.30 A. M. and lighted a lamp in the kitchen and then went into the sitting room, lighting another and sat down to read a paper.

He heard a crash in the kitchen a few moments later and before he could realize what had happened

the whole room was ablaze. He had just time to waken his family and escape with them and a small amount of clothing before the roof of the building was a mass of flames. The fire was fanned by a strong south wind, which carried the burning embers over the cottages for a distance of more than a hundred feet in the direction of the Highlands.

Ten minutes after, the Hotel and Association hall took fire and these buildings were swept away in a tremendous heat that soon set fire to the adjoining cottages.

### **Furniture loaded on boats.**

On the water front of the old grounds some of the cottagers had time to procure boats, onto which they loaded their goods and rowed out into the lake where they remained until the fire had spent itself. Others, not so fortunate as to secure boats, threw their furniture down to the shore of, and in some instances, into the lake.

R. F. Churchill of Greenfield, president of the Campmeeting Association was notified of the fire and reached Lake Pleasant at 6 A. M.

The firemen from Turners Falls under command of chief Morreau arrived by special trolley. The Millers Falls firemen were directed by chief Thomas Berard. Both companies did efficient work with buckets and shovels. They were assisted by a large proportion of the 500 people, who, attracted by news of the fire, came to the scene by trolley or steam cars.

### **Bucket brigade organized.**

The bucket brigade fought the fire foot by foot as it advanced toward the bridge across the ravine.

At the bridge a wide trench was dug, which checked the advance of the fire.

Postmaster Henry saved little beside the government supplies. His loss probably is \$2000 more than his insurance. The loss to the Campmeeting Association on the Hotel is about \$4000 and about \$1000 on its furnishings. The dance Pavilion was valued at \$1500 and the Headquarters building at \$500. These losses are only partially covered by insurance. Most of the cottages were of small value individually, ranging from \$300 to \$1000.

### **Buildings destroyed.**

ON THE BLUFF—Mrs. Nathan Reed Charles Barron Mrs. Martine Severence heirs Mr. Stone Mrs. Randall A. H. Dailey James boys Mrs. H M Jones Bowmans Mary Marble Misses Lawrence Florence and Nellie Allen Dr. Burchmore.

REAR OF BLUFF Mrs. Roundsville John Johnson Stewart Burns Mrs. Collier Mrs. Bixby Mrs. Andrews Mrs. Caswell Mrs. J Russell Bickford Emery Clark Edward Putnam.

LYMAN STREET Mrs. Fletcher Mrs. Whittier Ladies' Pavilion Mrs. Chase Edith Ball Isabella Ross Mrs. Brown Mrs. Haslam Mrs. Rice H C Douglass H A Budington,

WEST SIDE OF BROADWAY Mrs. Amidon Alice Waterhouse Fisher cottage Dr. Willis Harriet King Louise Smith Helen Caldwell George Burlingame Mr. Jones Jacob Glickland George Pasco Mr. Frail Jennie Rhind John S Hart Mrs. Wheeler Miss Wilkins Mrs. Richardson.

EAST SIDE Edwin Putnam G F McKenney.

ZENITA STREET Harriet Parker Homer Haskins Christopher Clapp Frank A Bickford Mary Fisher F I Webster .

OWASSO STREET John Baldwin Mrs. Jackson Mrs. Flint Miss Graham Byron Loomis Mrs. Kleinhaus Mrs. James Purple Frank Miller Mrs. William Freuch Mrs. Fairbanks Mary Sheldon Leon Henry. Mr Wilbur Miss Minot Mrs Shirley

MONTAGUE STREET G F Starbuck Mrs. Carbee John W Wheeler Mrs. Horner Mrs. Field Albert Valentine Mrs. Henry Allen Mrs. J W Storrs Nora Dowd Judson Freemont Frank Fletcher A Fales Mrs. Booth Sarah Greeley Kate Noack J J Gurney Mrs. Robbins Mr Jordan Flavia Thrall Hattie Mason A P Blinn

[Condensed from the Springfield Union.]

Lake Pleasant will rise from the ashes of 1907. Her work is not finished. So long as fossil theology, the guesses of a barbaric antiquity, are served up every Sunday, from thousands of pulpits, to people of the twentieth century—so long must such truths as are taught at Lake Pleasant, be needed.

Let Lake Pleasant redouble her efforts for the emancipation of the minds of the people from religious slavery. As long as the human intellect is held in errors' chains, such centers of free thought will be needed.

The work accomplished at Lake Pleasant for the last thirty three years, is shown already in the present trend of religious thought up and down the valley of the Connecticut. Hell fire is quenched, except in the primitive mind of the backwoods ignoramus. The Atonement walls are falling. A physical God-man is no longer accepted by the enlightened mind. Resurrection of the body is now banished to the limbo of ignorant antiquity. The special Judgment day is abolished in the thought of emancipated people.

*There is no forgiveness for sin! Right living is the only salvation for mankind, both here and hereafter.*

These are some of the truths taught at Lake Pleasant. May her groves and temples resound with the truths of Nature and the Spirit World.

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### **Lake Pleasant.      A Memory.**

BY HUDSON TUTTLE.

A party of us sat by the shore of Lake Pleasant, the Lake beautiful—a fragment of blue sky, thrown down among the rocks and pines, reflecting the bounding shore so softly, that the eye failed to see



where the real and the reflection blended. There may be as gem-like lakelets, but none more beautiful.

There was a poet with us whose sweet voice of song was like the music of an angels's harp, and one whom the invisible world had attuned with an eloquence given only by inspiration. The last day of the Camp had come, the last hours of the day when good bye must be said, and the parting which would drift each one back again to the spheres of duty from which they had then escaped, with the assurance that in this life their paths would never again cross, and the next greeting must come on the highlands of eternal life.

The lecturer, inspired, talked of other lands beyond the seas, and the poet, of a country laved by a tide which breaks on a coast beyond an infinite horizon. The pines whispered, and their eloquence was grander and sweeter than the softest cadence of the human voice. The pines murmured as the sun went down and a deepening shadow stole over the bright face of the waters.

The wind arose, and their myriad tongues echoed the far-away ocean, sadly, sweetly, with subtle power which lifted the spirit out of its bondage and permitted the spirit world to come close to the innermost being.

Something more than that came out of the murmuring pines, the restful waters and the stars that began to light their torches in the heavens.

The soul in the gathering dark, looking up into the watchful stars, was homesick, was filled with the glorious thought that it was as eternal as they, a wanderer from an unknown land, tarrying for a

night and somewhere in the morning, it would awaken in a world where its ideal of excellence would be realized. It felt that it was a part of the infinite Inter-Soul, destined to actualize its every aspiration and dream of joy.

We may not understand, we cannot understand, for the celestial life so far transcends the mortal, that words have little meaning when applied to the things of that life.

We do not comprehend the growth of a blade of grass or of a flower. We take the root of the lily and expect to find the flowers; we shall be disappointed. Plant it in the earth, under the influence of the showers and the sun, the lily bud will expand and make the air fragrant with its perfume. The possibilities of the lily were wrapped up in the layers of the root. So the possibilities of immortal, spiritual life are contained in the physical life.

We do not understand how the egg in that nest on the mountain crag, and the egg in the nest in the bramble, identical to all tests, when subjected to warmth, go forward in a line of development that in one case, produces a strong wing that battles with the clouds and defies the storm, and the other, a feeble wing that seeks safety in the hedges.

O! no! no one has sent the plummet down to the depths of cause, nor looked through the confining horizon of space.

The night came, and the bosom of the Lake reflected the glory of the heavens, star for star, and on its rim caught the crescent moon, with an attendant planet. A breeze rippled the water, blotting out half the brilliancy. How like the reflection of spirit

thoughts in one's soul. They often come, but we present no mirror to catch their reflection. The breezes of selfishness and passion, darken, and in blindness we cry that there is no light.

Good night! good bye! The poet\* is singing yet and the lecturer† is in her own land, inciting her her own people by the grandeur of the philosophy of Spiritualism. Good-bye, O! many friends: may we all be true to ourselves, and kind angels guide and protect us through shadows and the night, until the morning. BERLIN HEIGHTS, OHIO. April, 1887.

\* James G Clark.

† Emma Hardinge.

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### **Ladies' Improvement Society.**

One of the most valuable aids in promoting the prosperity of Lake Pleasant Camp, is the work of this Society. The devotion of its members to the cause, their pride in sustaining the good name of the place, their financial help, all are evident in the efforts of these devoted women, who every year, labor early and late to further the prosperity of the Camp.

When the Temple was built, this Society contributed \$1200 toward its cost. It may not be generally known that Col. Ingersoll and the Ladies' Improvement Society paid for the temple. The net proceeds of Col. Ingersoll's lectures for the two seasons he spoke at Lake Pleasant were \$1800. This money and the \$1200 from the Ladies, made \$3000, the cost of the Temple.

Ever since, these women have been busy, raising funds for the support of the meetings; and the whole Camp should be hearty supporters of this Society.

### **Skating Rink.**

In the early days of the Camp, H L Barnard erected a roller skating Rink on the plain opposite the head of Lyman street. For one season it was greatly patronized and much pleasure was enjoyed in rolling over the smooth floor to the waltz of Dream Faces. The popularity of the Rink lessened very much the attendance at the dancing Pavilion. During the next spring a fire reduced the Rink to ashes.

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### **Independent Order of 'Scalpers.**

This is an order composed of young men, mostly visitors at the Camp. They own a large building in the suburbs, formerly the Hunter dining hall.

They hold most of their meetings in the night, twelve o'clock, midnight being a favorite hour for opening their mysterious conclaves. The order is for amusement, instruction and good fellowship.

They adopt Indian customs and sometimes a partial Indian dress, and enliven the Camp with music such as it is supposed the wild Indian loved.

They also have a brass band which discourses civilized music for the enjoyment of all the people at Camp.

The Scalpers Ball at the Temple is the popular one of the season at Camp, where the once painted warriors, now assume the costume and culture of the modern, young white men and are the favorites of the young women who consider it an honor to dance with these temporary sons of the forest.

Though they call themselves Scalpers, they never scalp any one, being so gentle in their manners that little children can go among them with safety.

### **The Campmeeting Debt.**

January 1, 1907 the debt stood as follows—

Due Crocker Savings Institution,	\$1502.65.
Due 121 Bondholders at \$50 per bond	\$6050.00.
Total amount of debt	\$7552.65.
Amount received, Insurance in May	\$4680.32.
Net balance of debt due June 1,	\$2872.33.

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### **Montague.**

The town of Montague was originally a part of Sunderland, and called Hunting Hills. In 1753 it was set off and named Montague, from a prominent resident of Sunderland by the name of Montague.

This family came originally from the north of France; afterward moving into England. One of the descendants came to America and settled in Hadley, Mass. A branch of this family moved to Sunderland.

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### **Turners Falls.**

Turners Falls was named after Captain Turner, who led in the night attack on the Indians at this place, April 18, 1676. On the retreat with his command, he was overtaken by the avenging savages and slain on the bank of Green River near Nash's Mills, Greenfield. A memorial stone has been placed at the Mills.

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There is a tradition that the Indians sometimes held religious dances and feasts around the shores of Lake Pleasant. Perhaps the remarkable purity and abundance of its deep, spring waters, caused them to think their Great Spirit was partial to this beautiful Lake.

### **Geology of Lake Pleasant.**

The valley of the Connecticut is the bed of an inland sea which once extended from New Haven, Ct. to Brattleboro, Vt. This valley is noted for its red sandstone deposit. It is of aqueous origin and belongs to the Triassic period. Borings have been made in this sandstone to depth of three thousand feet without reaching the bottom of this deposit.

In this sandstone are to be found footprints of animals, notably around Turners Falls.

During the glacial period much of the sand plains of Montague were formed, covering the sandstone deposit. Lake Pleasant is held in one of the sand potholes, made by eddying currents and glacial erosion. The sandy nature of the soil makes it an ideal place for a Camp.

Mount Tobey is chiefly a conglomerate of shale and quartzite pebbles. Sugarloaf is sandstone conglomerate. The mountains around Lake Pleasant are of a similar character, mostly trap rock and sandstone conglomerate.

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### **Ode to Lake Pleasant.**

O! Pleasant Lake—a scene of beauty, rare!  
 I love your azure sky—your summer air;  
 Your shady streets, your billowy plains,  
 Where blends the golden rod with grains.  
 What pleasure on a summer night,  
 To gaze upon the towering hight  
 Of Tobey in the southern sky,  
 Or list to song of night bird, flitting by.  
 To see the queenly moon from over Dry Hill rise,  
 And flood the landscape and the starry skies,  
 With soothing, silvery, shimmering beams,



While dancer's music gently wins to dreams.  
 Thy air, thy water and thy pines  
 Bring health to those from other climes.  
 'Mid life's great conflict, who can tell  
 The virtues drawn from Jacob's Well?  
 Of beauty, who can drink enough,  
 Who sits and gazes from the Bluff?  
 What healthful rides through Northfield farms,  
 Where singing brook the meadow charms.  
 There's river Green, 'twixt wooded hills,  
 There's Shattuck brook and Warwick rills.  
 There's Leyden glen and river Fall,  
 And Sugar Loaf and Deerfield Hall.  
 There's pic-nic vale near Goddard glen,  
 And Rocky mountain with its den.  
 There's Poets' Seat and Turner's Falls,  
 Whose thund'ring water ever calls  
 To memory sad, the fatal spot  
 Where Turner fell 'neath tomahawk.  
 Long ages past, the Indian sires,  
 To worship came, and lit their fires.  
 Around thy sacred shores they trod,  
 And called upon its guardian God  
 To grant them fortune in the chase,  
 And make them leaders of their race.

### **Sunset and Night at Lake Pleasant.**

As twilight approaches, the singers gather on  
 Lyman street, and voice the good old songs of other  
 days. The old Oaken Bucket—Star of the Eve-  
 ning—Sweet Home—Annie Laurie—Old Folks at  
 Home, and other songs arrest the attention of the  
 people, and they fill the street, heartily joining in  
 the choruses.

### **BIRDS.**

Over in the copse, the whippoorwill calls to his  
 mate in plaintive, minor notes. The Nightingale

sings in the echoing woods. The owl hoots a solemn note from the hollow chestnut tree. The day birds with feeble, intermittent chirps, close their daily festival of song as they nestle their heads under their wings.

#### LOVERS' LANE.

Strolling along Lovers' Lane or resting on the seats are happy couples, hand in hand, talking half in jest, half in earnest, of the halcyon visions of coming days—a vine-wreathed cottage with flowers and love for the setting.

#### THE SWINGS.

In the swings other are building castles in the air, often never to come down to earth.

#### HENRY'S ICE CREAM PARLORS.

In Henry's ice-cream parlors, little groups of people are eating the frozen nectar, and admiring the dancing wavelets on the silvery Lake.

#### BOATS ON THE LAKE.

Out on the Lake, the young couples glide over the shining surface in buoyant boats, singing or cooing while the maiden dips her hand in the water, as she listens with charmed ear to the pleading of the stalwart oarsman for united and happy years in wedlock.

#### SCHUBERT QUARTETTE.

From the upper windows of the Hotel, float the superb harmonies of the Schubert Quartette—rehearsing their songs for the next day at the Temple, every rendering being a poem of musical beauty.

#### STARS AND MOON.

The sky is studded with starry diamonds. The moon silvers the hills, the dales, the mountains—

such a scene touched the heart of Shelley when he wrote—

How beautiful this night, the balmiest sigh  
 Which vernal zephyrs breathe in evening ear,  
 Were discord to the speaking quietude,  
 That wraps this moonlit scene. Heaven's ebon vault,  
 Studded with stars, unutterably bright,  
 Through which the moon's unclouded grandeur rolls,  
 Seems like a canopy which love has spread,  
 To curtain a sleeping world.

#### CIRCLES.

Down on Montague street, the circles are in session. Sweet By and By, Nearer my God to Thee, Shall we gather at the River? are droned out for the thousandth time. Peeps through the Gates Ajar into the Summer Land fill the hearts of the mourners with comfort as they listen to the hopeful words of the departed.

#### THE BLUFF.

The loungers on the Bluff scan the horizon. The moon is high above the eastern mountains. The air is clear. The vast, cerulean dome is glorified by its sheeny rays. The mountain forests murmur with the rising wind. The leaves, tipped with silvery light, rustle gently overhead. The distant farms are still, save an occasional bark of a watch dog, or the call of a belated farmer, urging home his weary team.

The music of the orchestra inspires the happy dancers in the Pavilion. We turn from the glare of the electric light, from the whirling waltzers and again behold the majestic night! One bright star hangs over frowning Tobey. The moon, full and clear, gilds the earth with silver.

Byron keenly sensed the beauty of night when he wrote these lines—

To sit on rocks, to muse o'er flood and fell,  
 To slowly trace the forest's shady scene,  
 Where things that own not man's dominion dwell,  
 And mortal footsteps hath ne'er or rarely been:  
 To climb the tractless mountain all unseen,  
 With the wild flock that never needs a fold;  
 Alone o'er steeps and foamy falls to lean;  
 This is not solitude. 'Tis but to hold

Converse with Nature's charms and view her stores unrolled.

The moon shines to night on the trackless ocean, and cheers the mariner five thousand miles away. It looks down from its serene height, upon the farm-dotted prairies of the west—upon the dwellers in the mountains and by the sea. Into millions of homes it gleams. In birth, in death, in the hard struggle of human life, it shines the same, never shedding aught but brightness and hope!

Grand old moon! you looked upon this earth before man was here! You will smile on our planet when she is dead and all its inhabitants shall have been for ages in the spiritual spheres!

Up there in the silvery and starry dome, dwell our loved and lost. Every one we have seen go from us, is living there. They flit back to earth from their glorious homes in the azure.

They come into our presence, they inspire and guide, they teach, they soothe. How faithfully they serve us and help us to prepare for transition to their blest abode! We shall meet in realms of beauty far exceeding this beautiful night. A moon more lovely than ours will shine on us. Star after will beam above us as we ascend the shining pathway to the ever radiant homes of the Summerland!



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